NARUTO
SHONEN JUMP MANGA
Story & Art by
Masashi Kishimoto
volume
25

岸本斉史

My favorite video games are from the old floppy disc system software that was sold such a long time ago. Now, those games are being re-released as retro games for the Game Boy. They're so ridiculous that they're irresistible!

—*Masashi Kishimoto, 2004*

Author/artist Masashi Kishimoto was born in 1974 in rural Okayama Prefecture, Japan. After spending time in art college, he won the Hop Step Award for new manga artists with his manga **Karakuri** (Mechanism). Kishimoto decided to base his next story on traditional Japanese culture. His first version of **Naruto**, drawn in 1997, was a one-shot story about fox spirits; his final version, which debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1999, quickly became the most popular ninja manga in Japan.

NARUTO VOL. 25
SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition

STORY AND ART BY MASASHI KISHIMOTO

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PARENTAL ADVISORY
NARUTO is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains realistic and fantasy violence.

ratings.viz.com

www.shonenjump.com

SHONEN JUMP MANGA EDITION

NARUTO

VOL. 25
BROTHERS

STORY AND ART BY
MASASHI KISHIMOTO

CHARACTERS

The Story So Far...

Naruto, the biggest troublemaker at the Ninja Academy in the Village of Konohagakure, finally became a ninja along with his classmates Sasuke and Sakura. During the Chûnin Exams, Orochimaru launched a surprise attack, *Operation Destroy Konoha*, during which the Third Hokage sacrificed his own life to save the village.

Tsunade becomes the Fifth Hokage as a confused Sasuke leaves Konohagakure with the Sound Ninja Four. Shikamaru and his team pursue Sasuke and end up facing-off against the Sound Four, only to be saved by Gaara. Now, Naruto has finally caught up to the renegade Sasuke...

NARUTO

VOL. 25
BROTHERS

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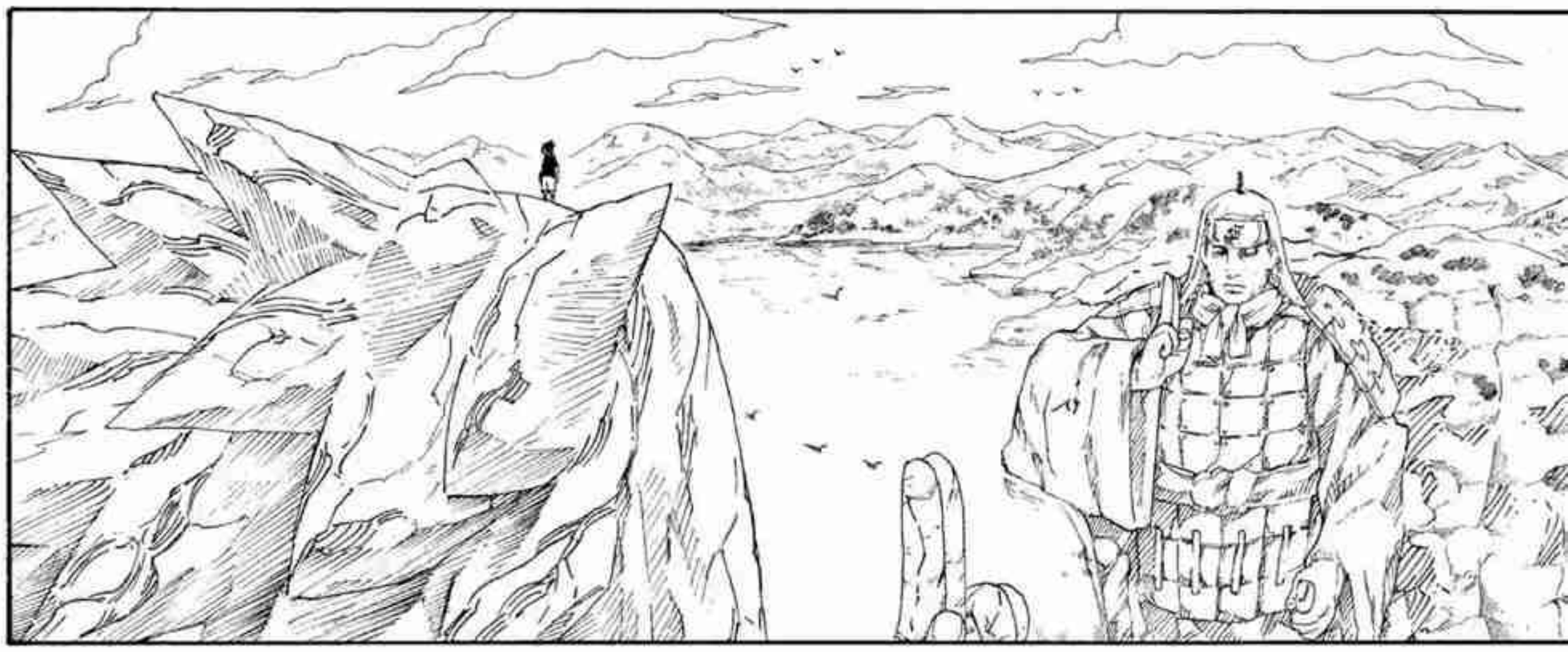
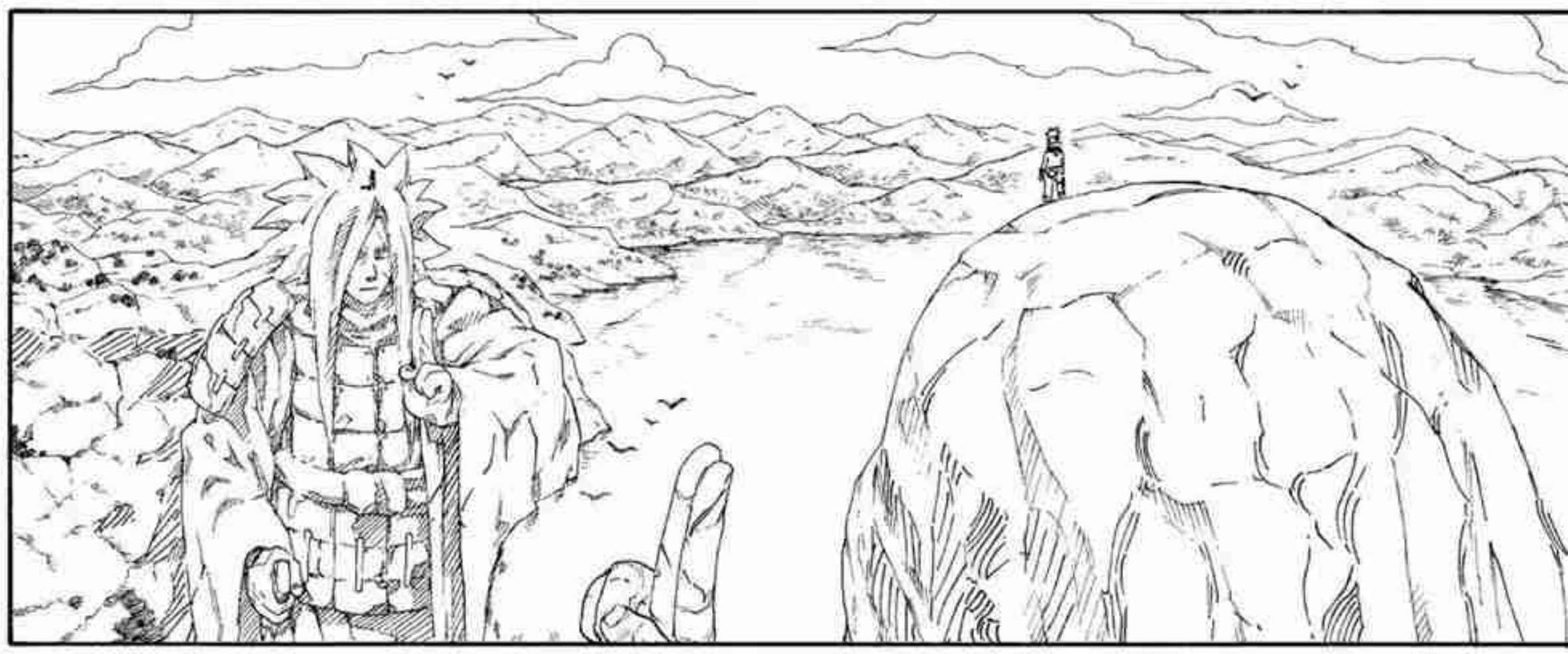
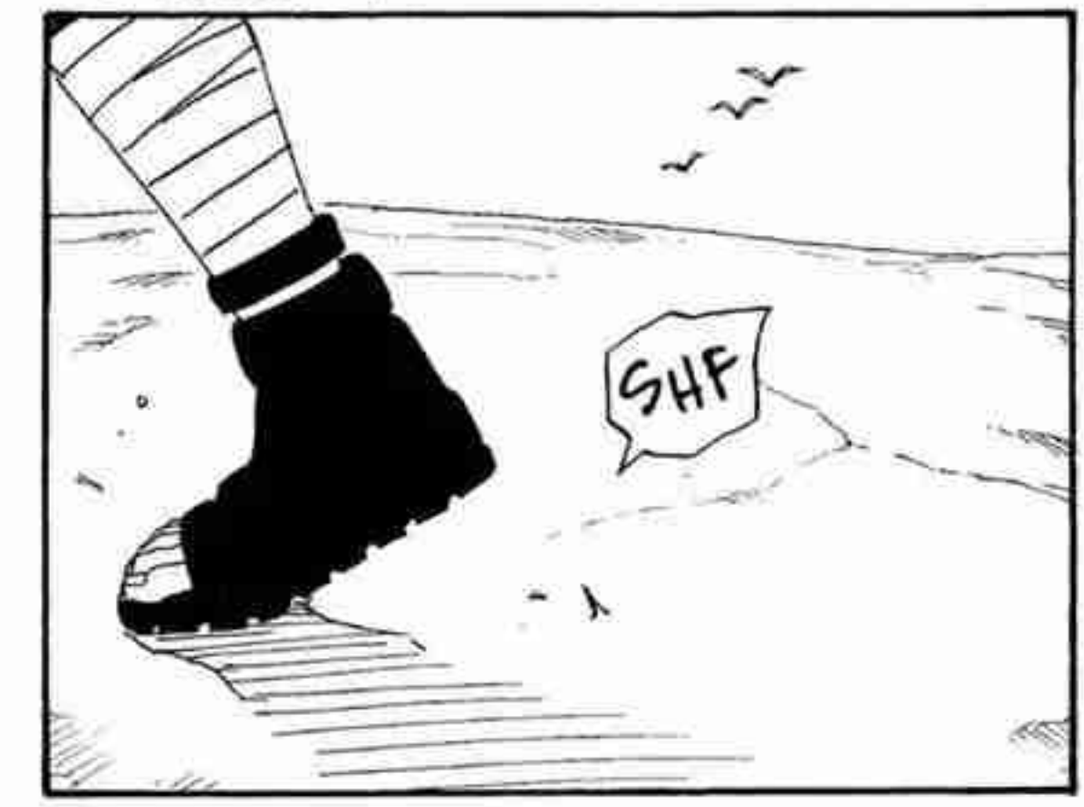
Number 218:





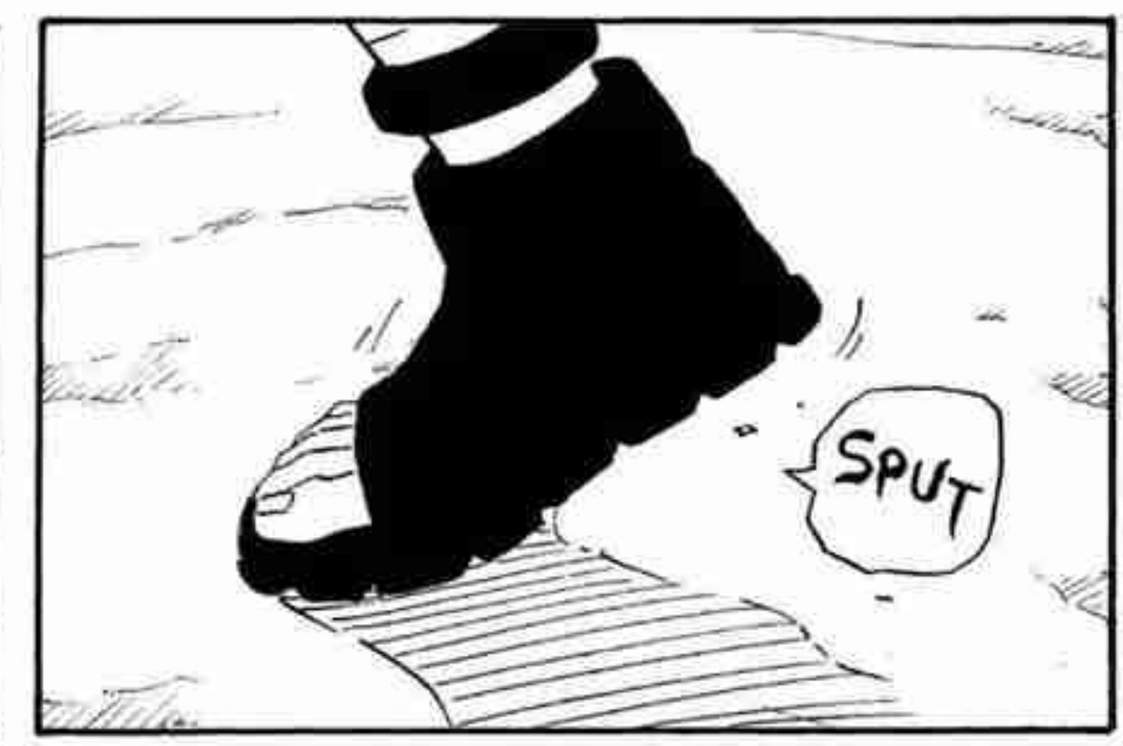
READ
THIS
WAY


SHF

...

YOU'RE RUNNING OFF?!

SHF


SPUT

HEY.
SCREW-UP.

...

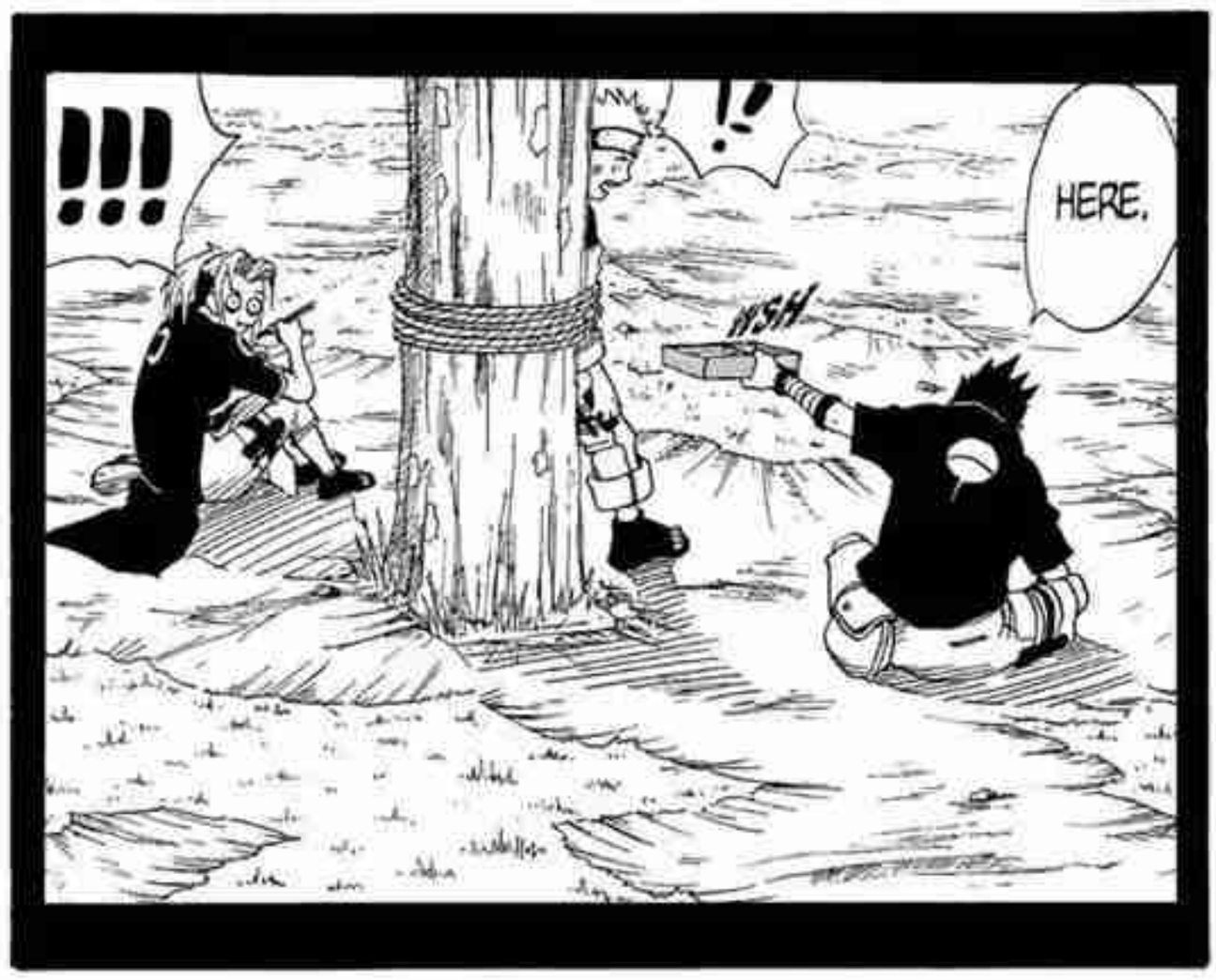
THIS TIME IT'S YOU, HUH...?

I... I COULDN'T STOP HIM!
I COULDN'T DO IT!

...SAVE HIM... IS YOU.
SO NOW... NOW THE ONLY PERSON WHO CAN... STOP HIM...

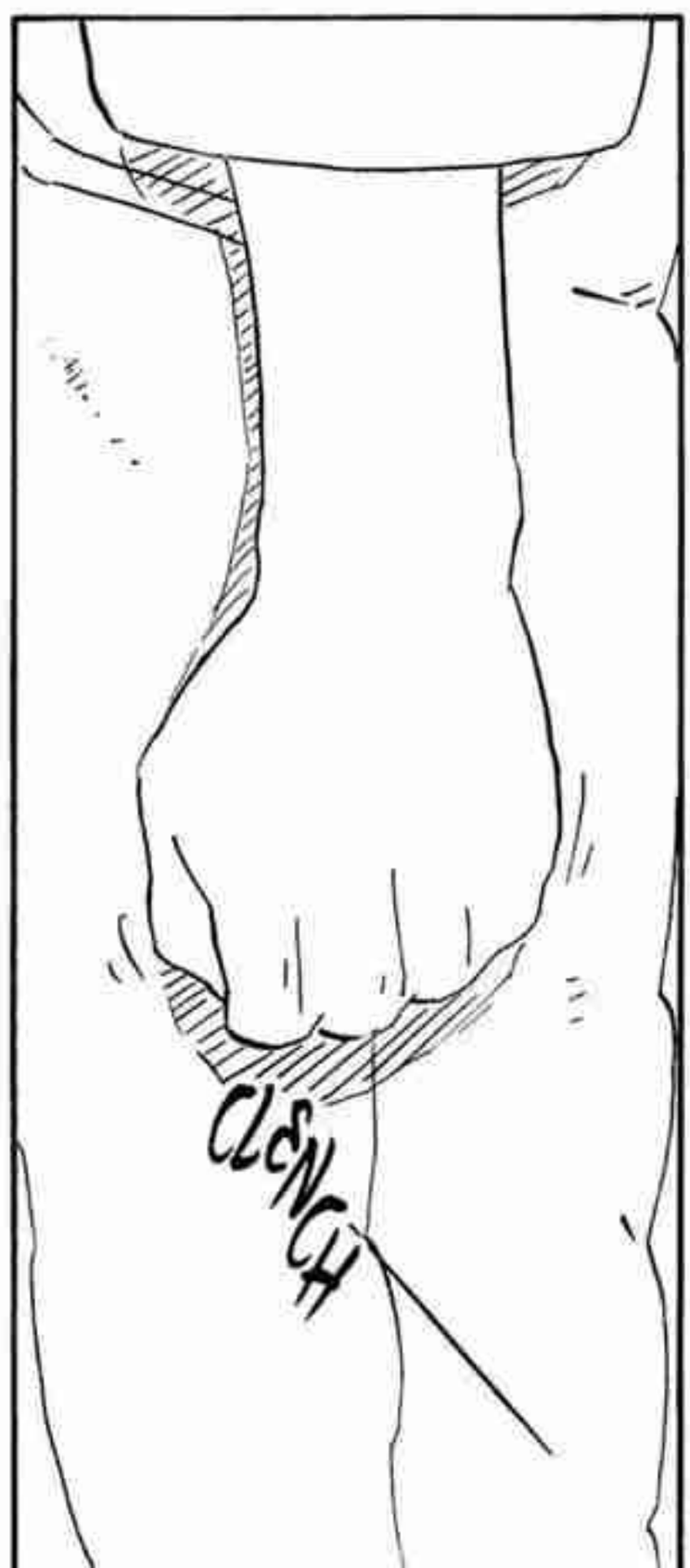
JUST... YOU, NARUTO.

READ THIS WAY
...LEAVE ME ALONE...
LIKE I ALREADY TOLD SAKURA ...
PLEASE... PLEASE BRING SASUKE BACK...
NARUTO, THIS... THIS IS MY WISH... OF A LIFETIME ...
WHAT? WHAT'S THAT LOOK FOR...?
HEH HEH... HEH...
...
HEH HEH...


!!!
!
HERE.
WSH

HMM...
JUST DON'T DRAG ME DOWN ...

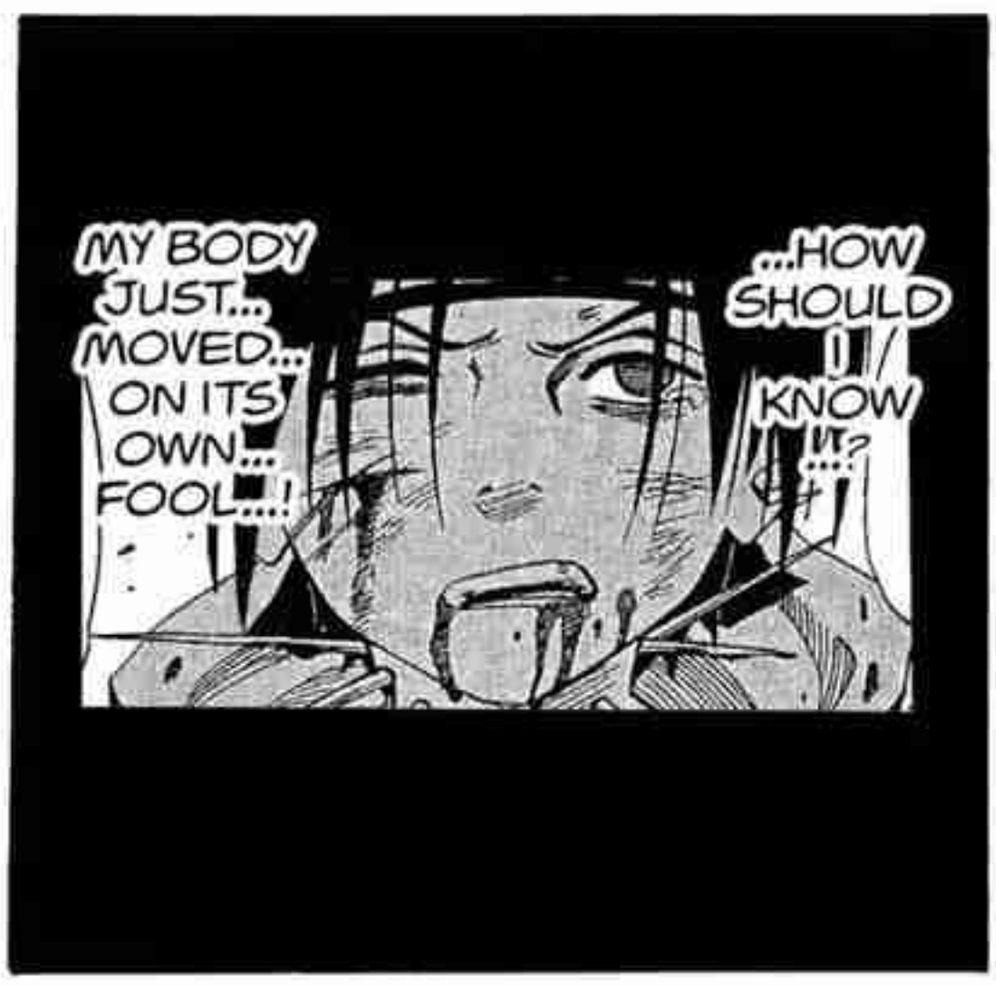
WHAT DID SAKURA SAY TO YOU...?
WH...


CLENCH

WANT TO HEAD BACK?
SURE!!
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF

...YOU SCREW-UP!
NOW GET THAT LAME EXPRES-SION OFF YOUR STUPID FACE...

KRAK


MY BODY JUST... MOVED... ON ITS OWN... FOOL...!
...HOW SHOULD I KNOW IT...?

YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST, MINDED YOUR OWN BUSI-NESS !!

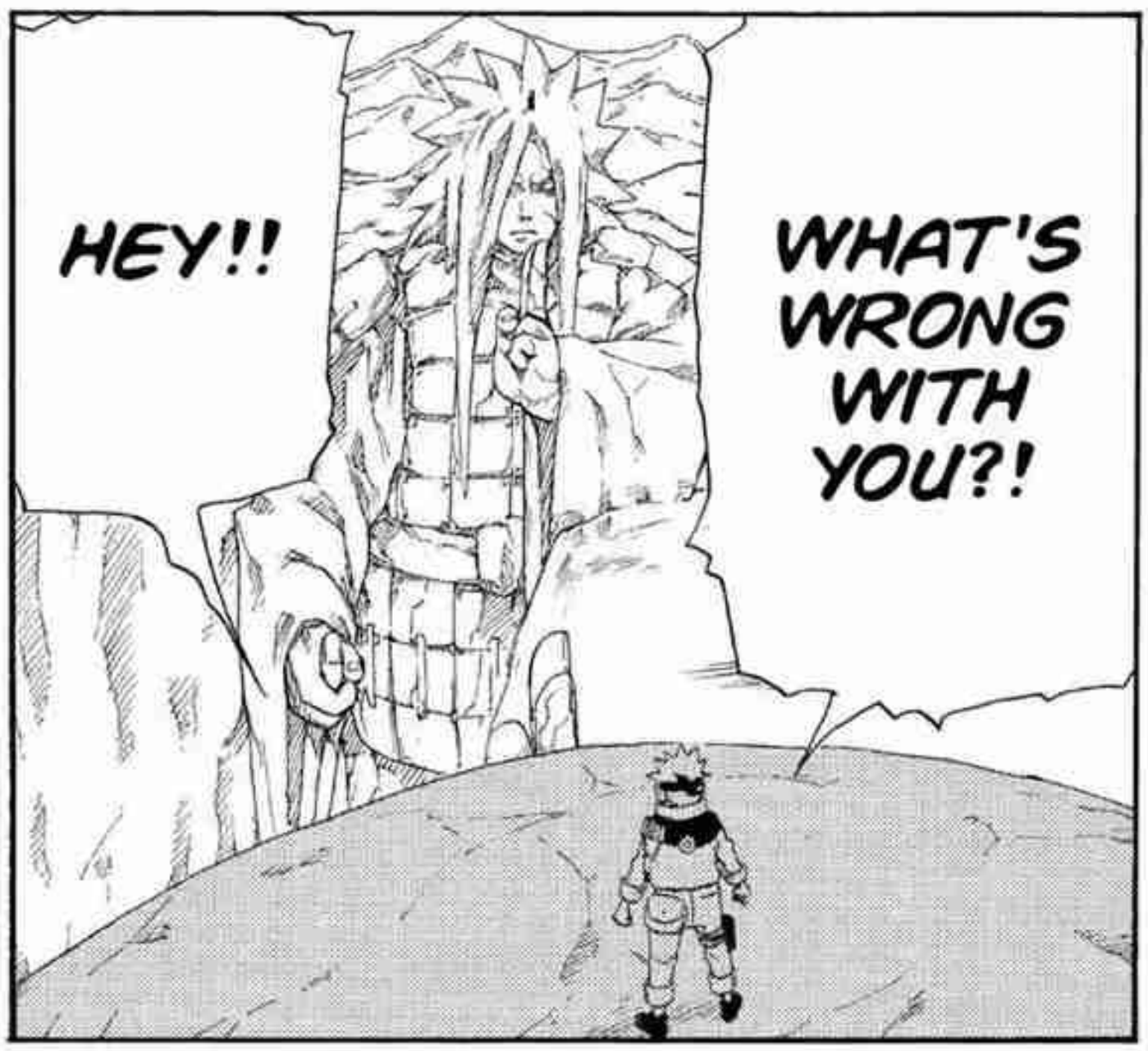
WHY ...?
CRACK

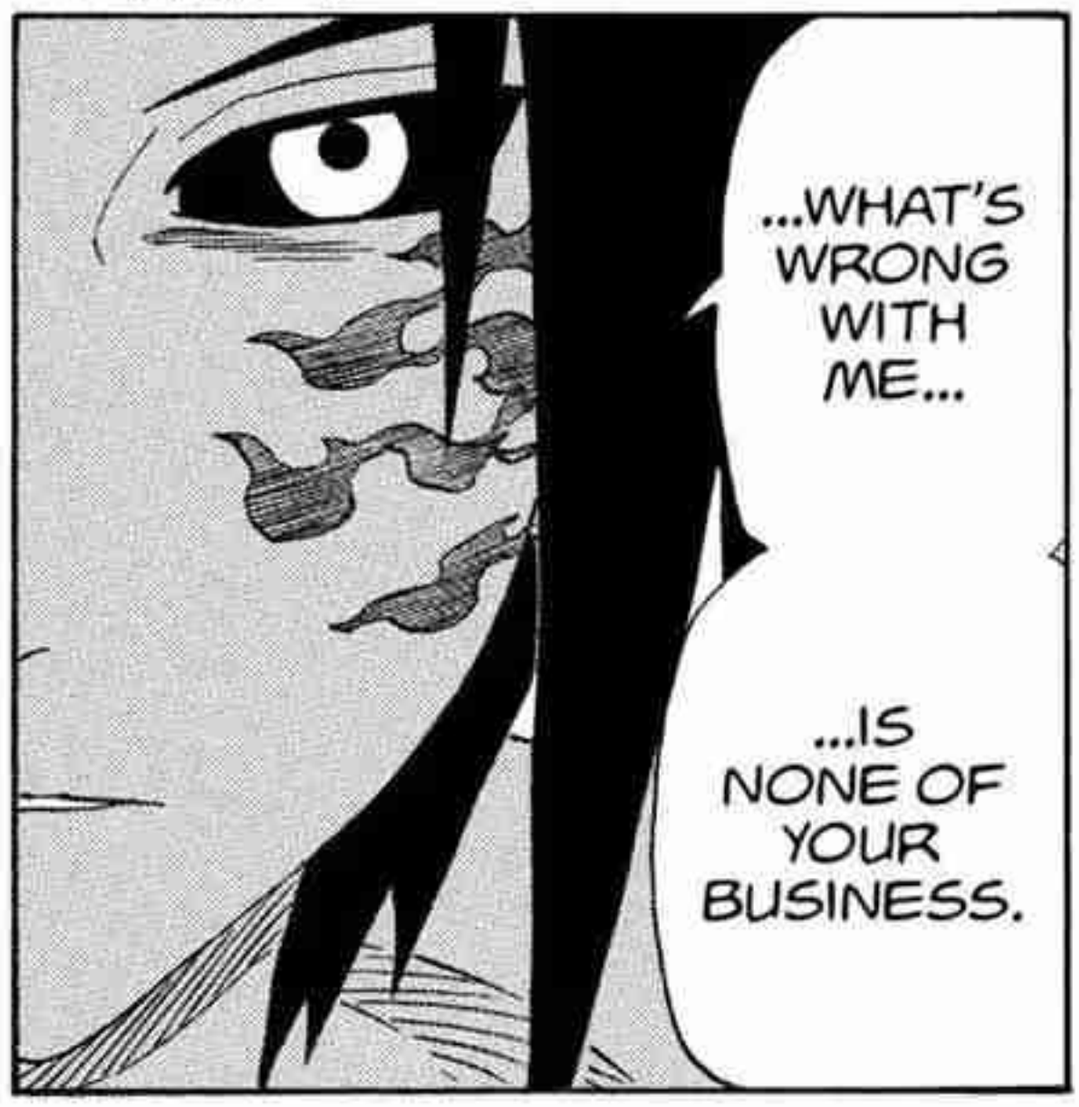
CRACK

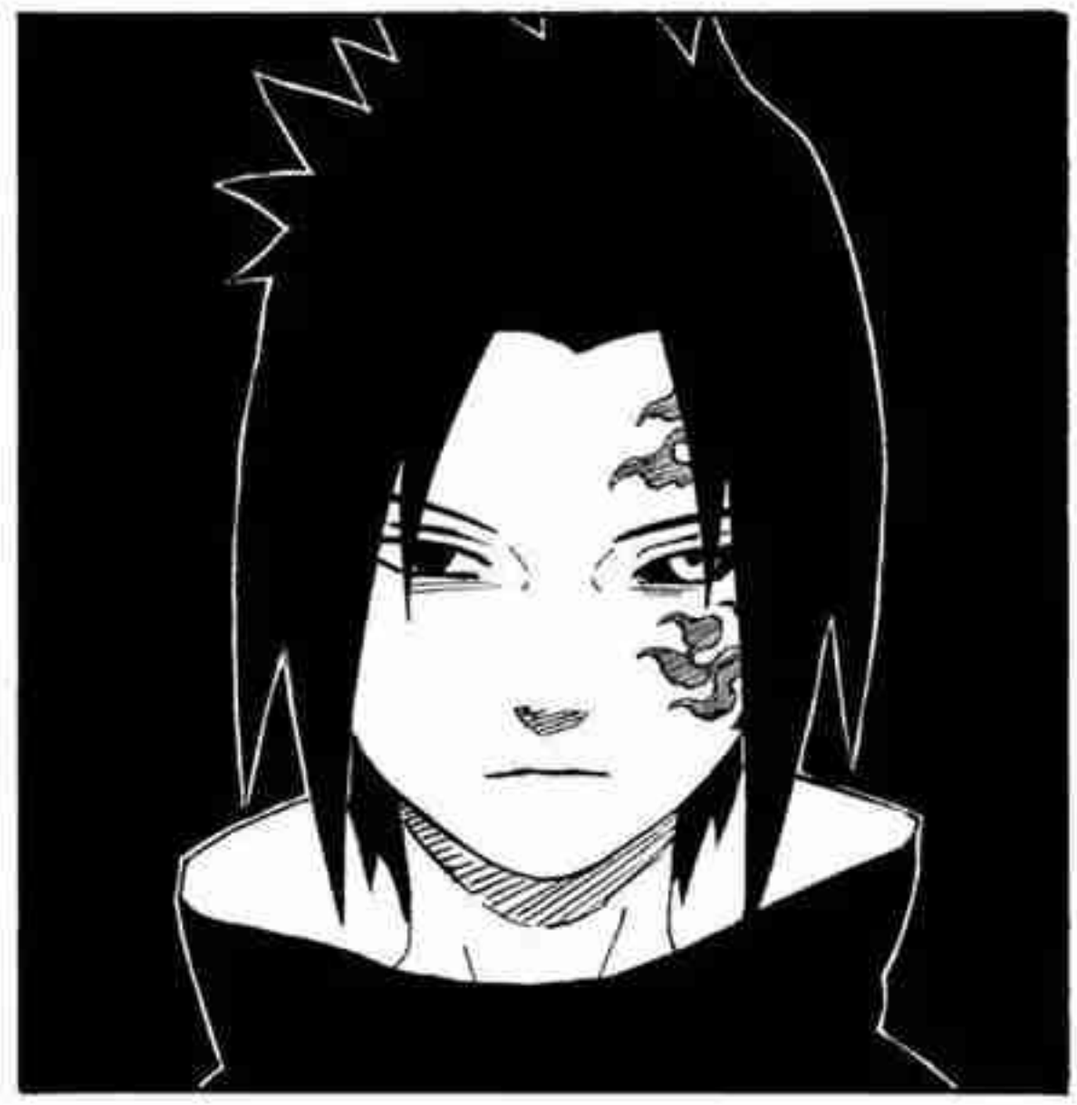
I DON'T EVER WANT TO WATCH MY PRECIOUS COMRADES DIE IN FRONT OF ME AGAIN...!
I'VE ALREADY LOST EVERY-THING ONCE BEFORE ...

WHY...?

SASUKE ...




...WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME...
...IS NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.



I HAVE NO OBLIGA-TION...
...TO YOU OR ANYONE.
I HAVE MY OWN PATH.

LET ME MAKE THIS CLEAR...

...

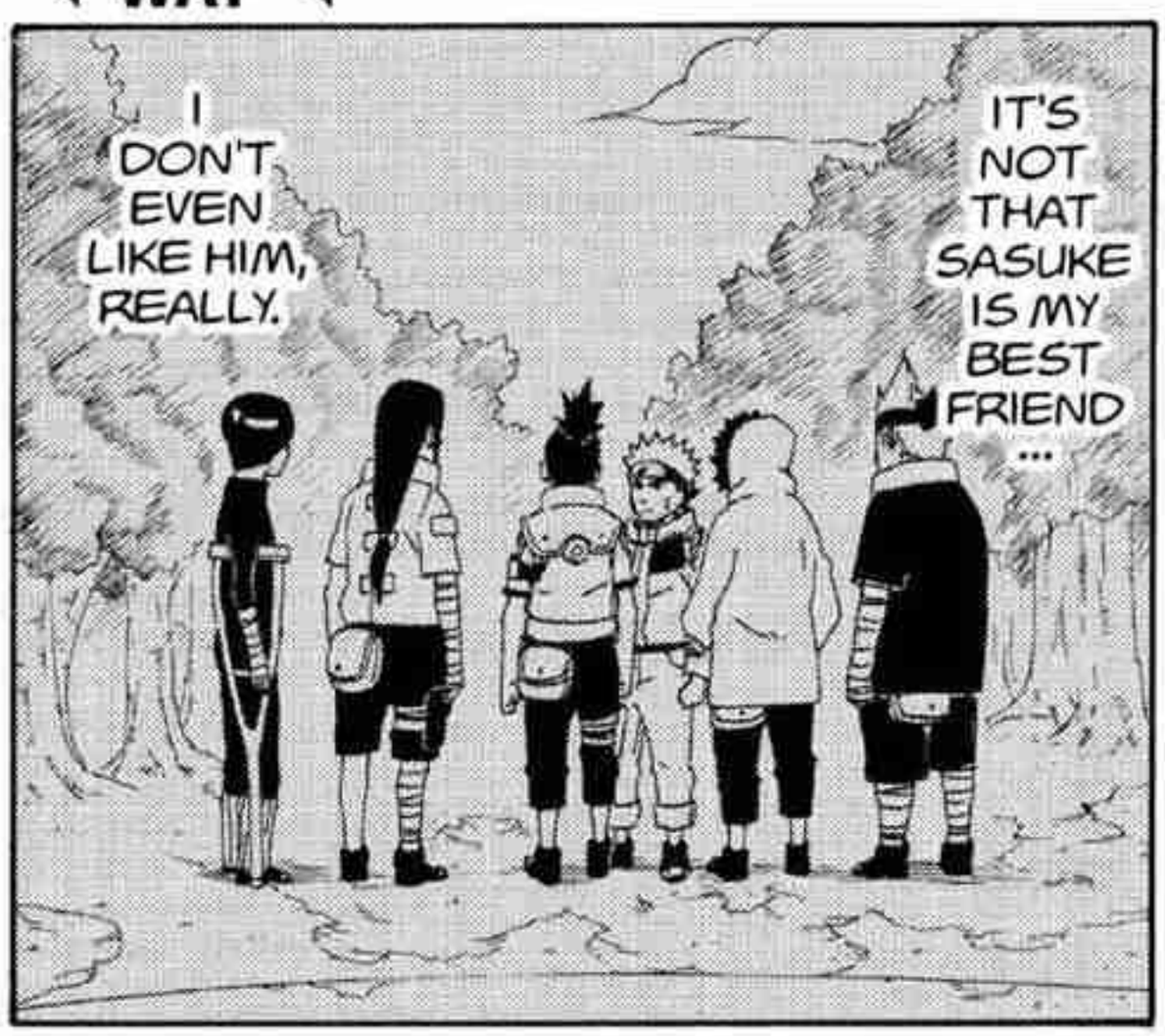
GO HOME.

I'M DONE PLAYING AROUND WITH THE KONOHA-GAKURE CROWD.

...

...!

...AND...?


I DON'T EVEN LIKE HIM, REALLY.
IT'S NOT THAT SASUKE IS MY BEST FRIEND ...

LET ME TELL YOU THE MOST IMPOR-TANT THING.

THAT'S THE KONOHA WAY.
THEREFORE I WILL STAKE MY LIFE TO RESCUE HIM.
HE IS OUR COM-RADE!
BUT LIKE US, SASUKE IS A SHINOBI OF KONOHA-GAKURE.

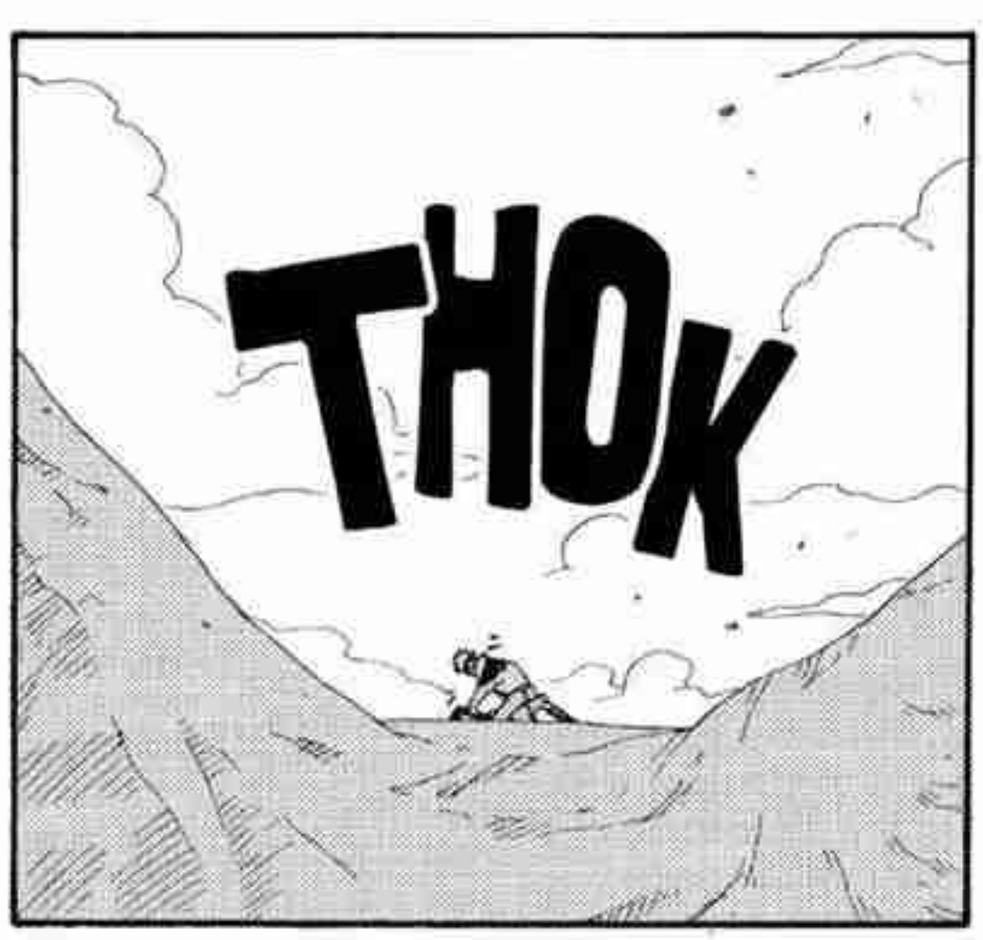
!

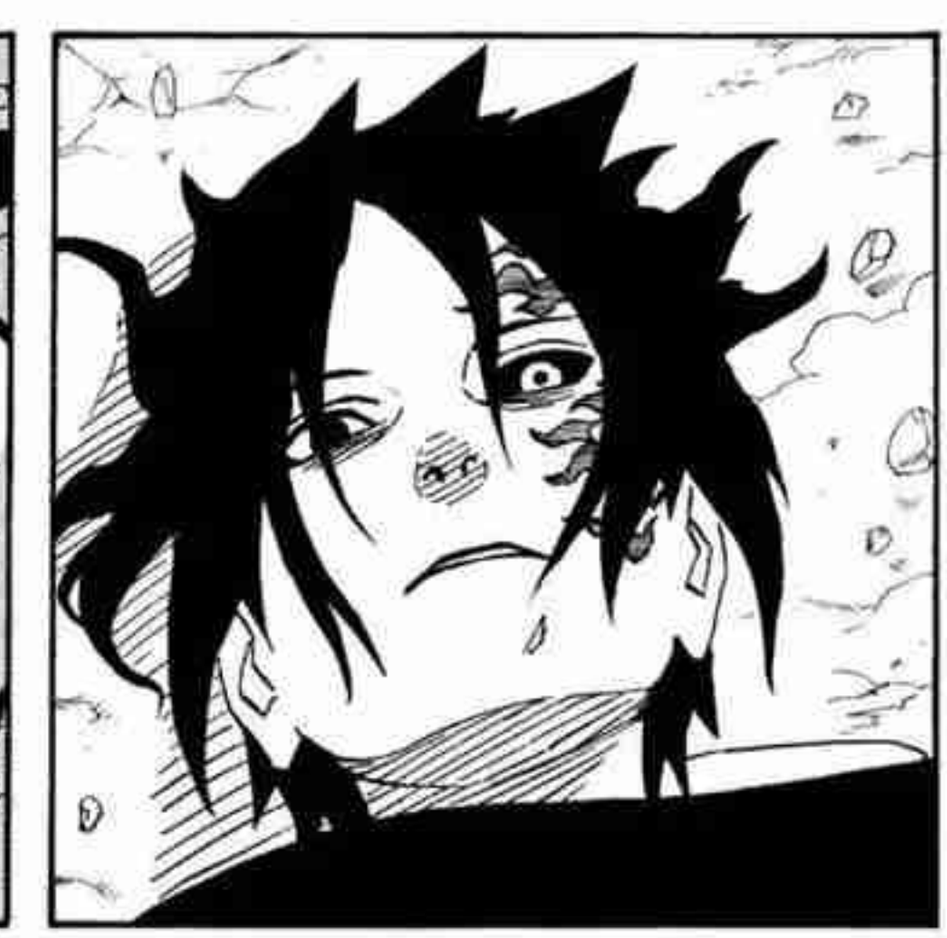
SWIP

DOES KONOHA MEAN NOTHING TO YOU?!

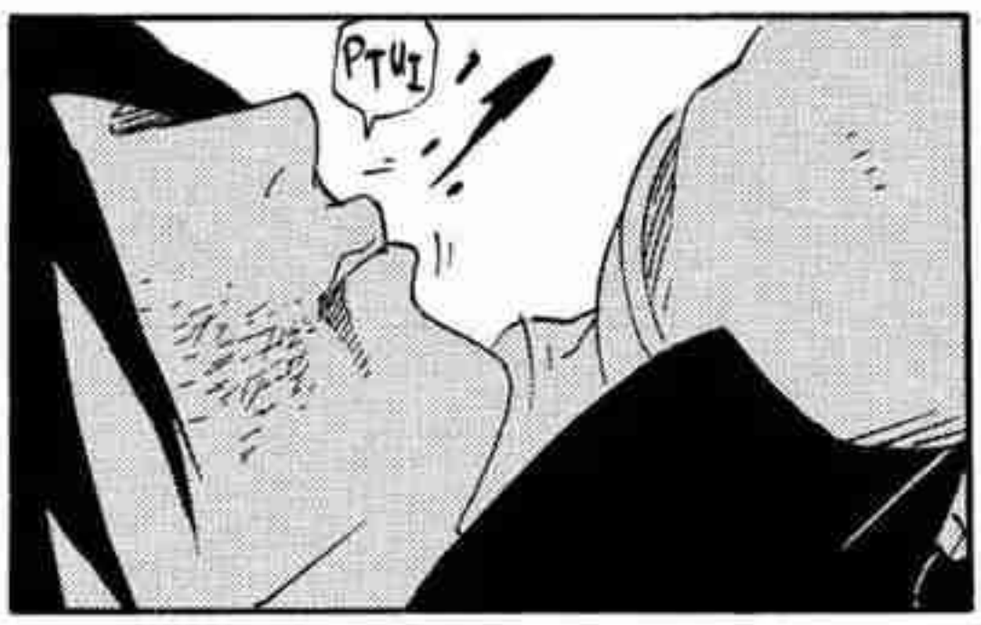
!!

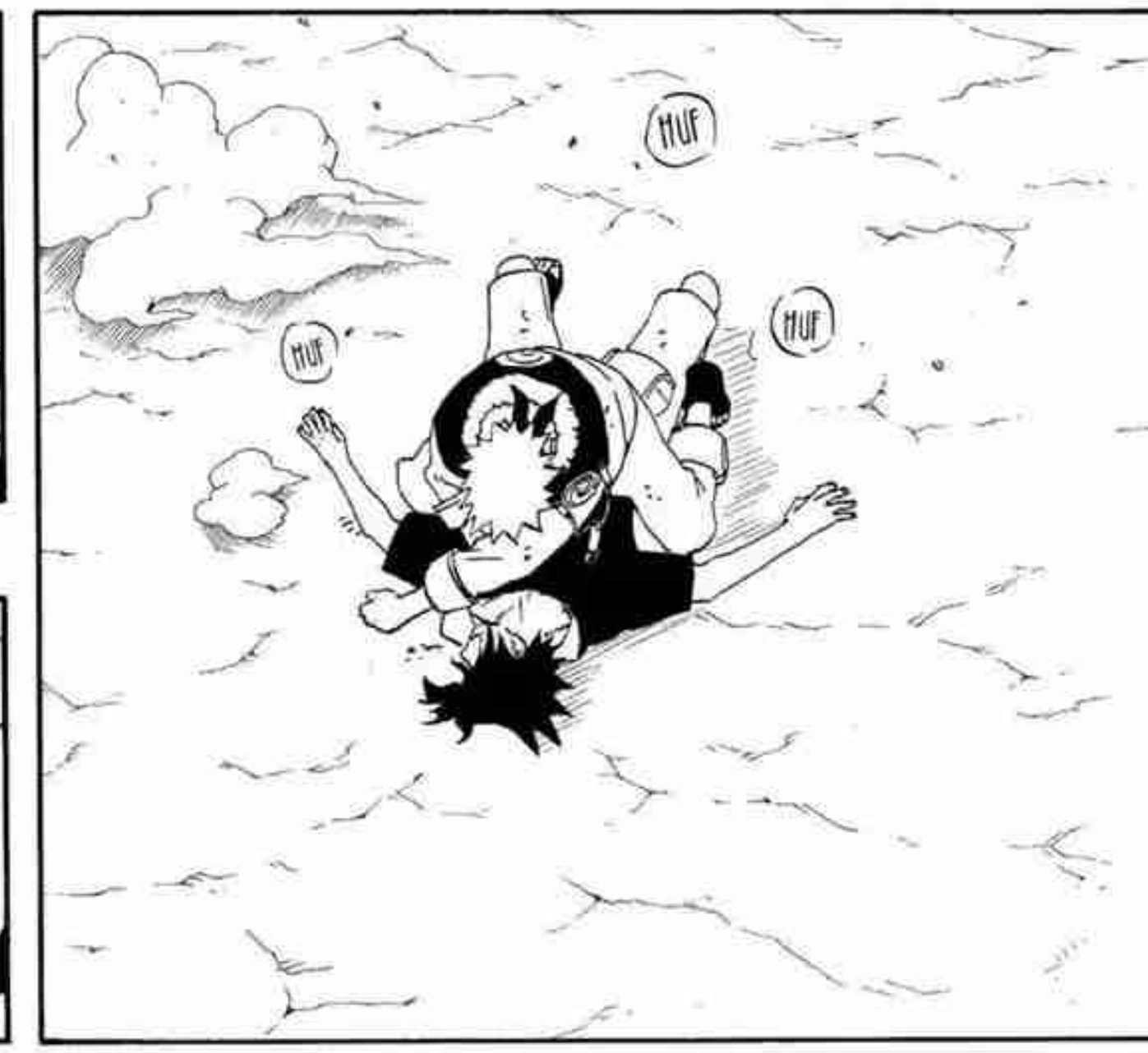
UGH.





PLIP





DID PLAYING AROUND WITH MY SO-CALLED COMRADES...

...MAKE ME ANY STRONGER...?

I'M GOING TO OROCHI-MARU!

...?!

DO YOU THINK HE'S GONNA JUST GIVE YOU POWER FOR FREE?!

OROCHIMARU KILLED THE THIRD HOKAGE AND TRIED TO DESTROY KONOHA!!

!!

YOU MIGHT BE KILLED!

YOU MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO COME BACK!

HE WANTS YOU FOR A HOST BODY!!

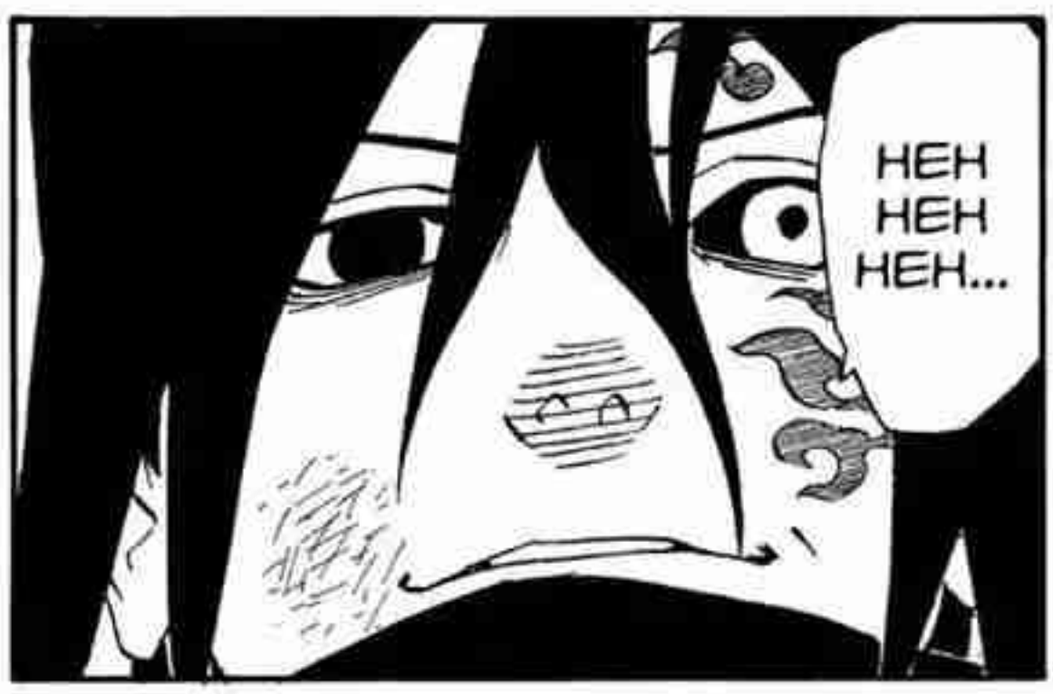
YOU THINK I'M JUST GONNA LET YOU GO?!

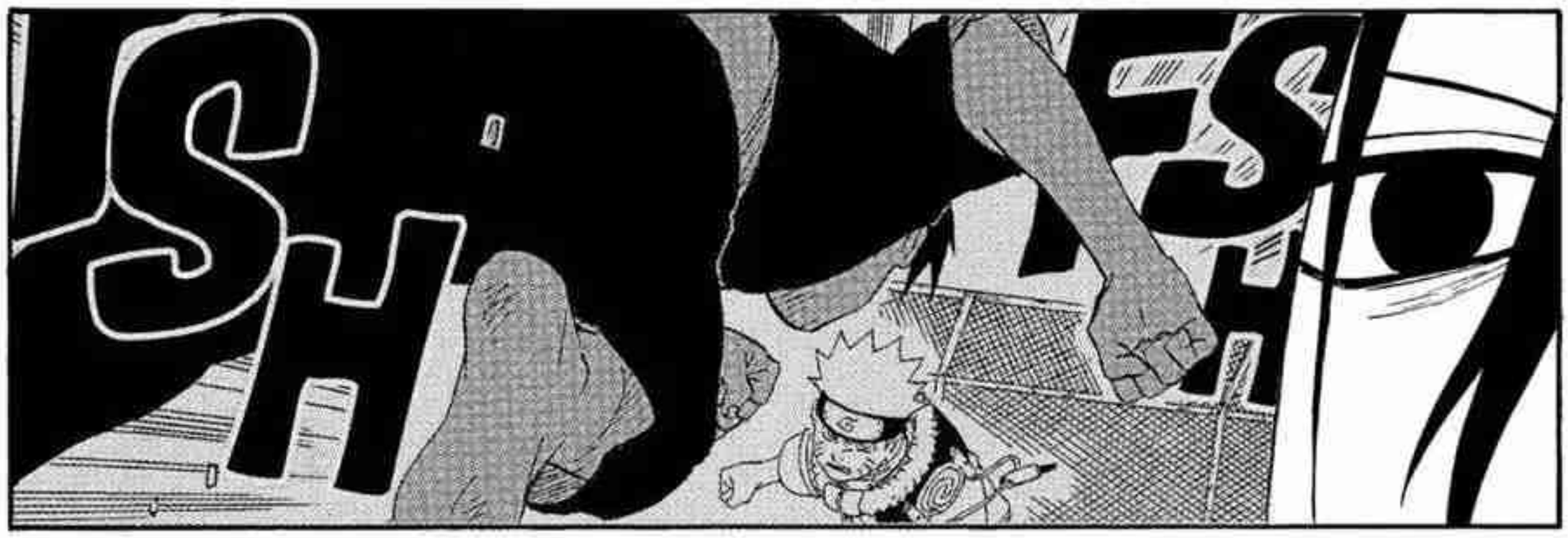
READ THIS WAY
...IF YOU'RE GONNA STAND IN THE WAY... THEN I HAVE NO CHOICE...
AS LONG AS I ACHIEVE MY GOAL, THAT'S ENOUGH.
CHUF
I'LL TAKE YOU BACK BY FORCE IF I HAVE TO!!
YOU CAN'T DO THIS!

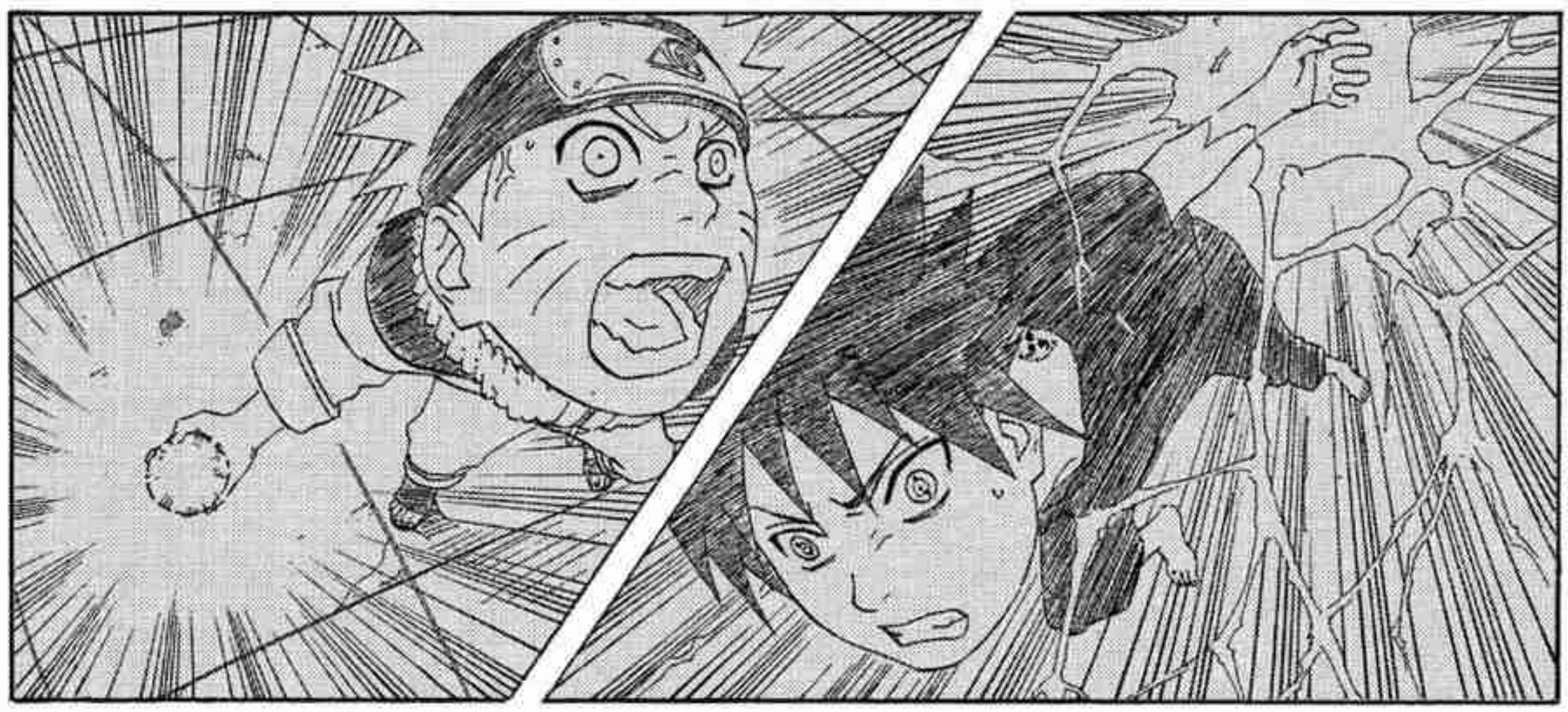
NARUTO
TM

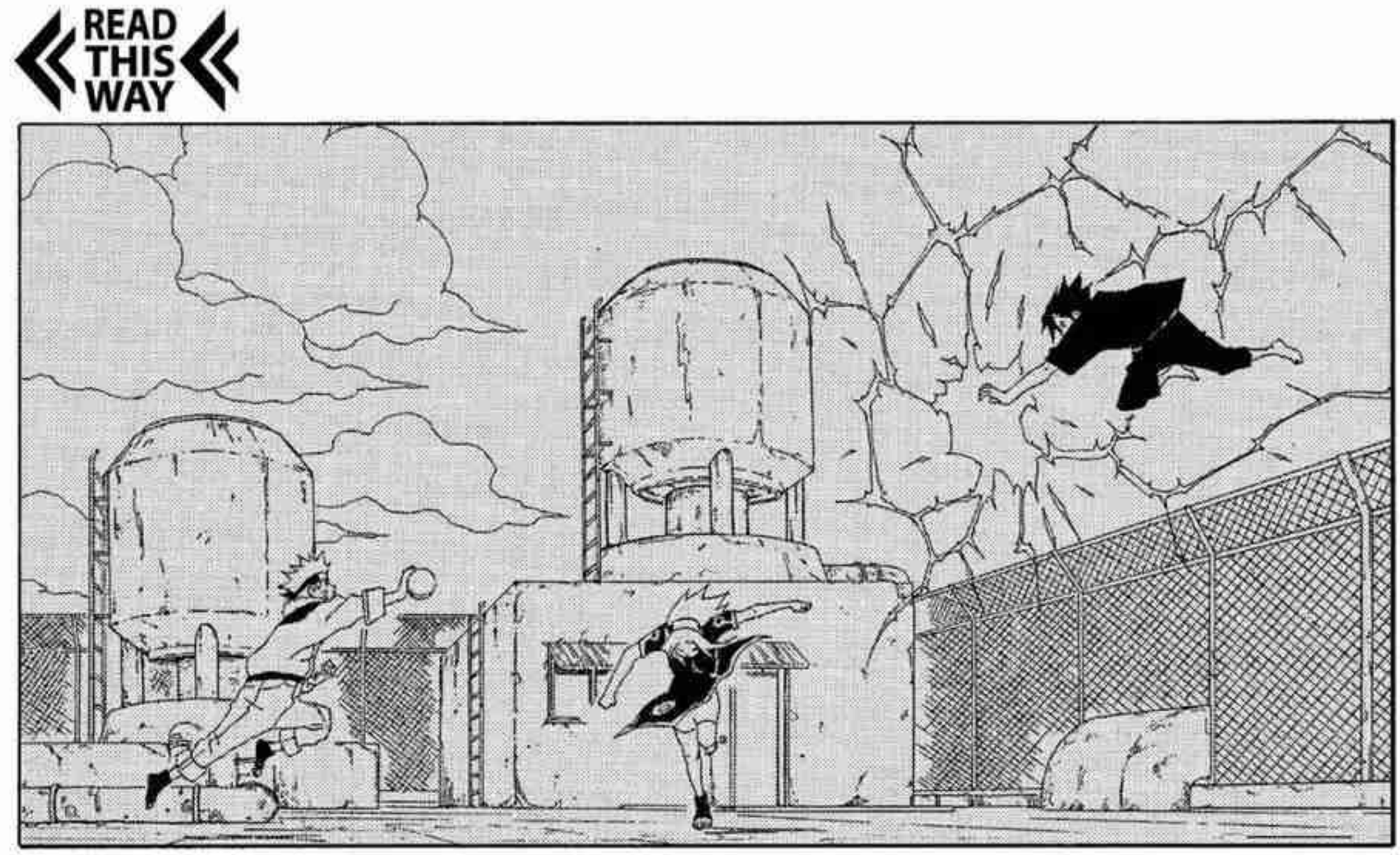
Number 219:
Future and Past

HEH HEH...

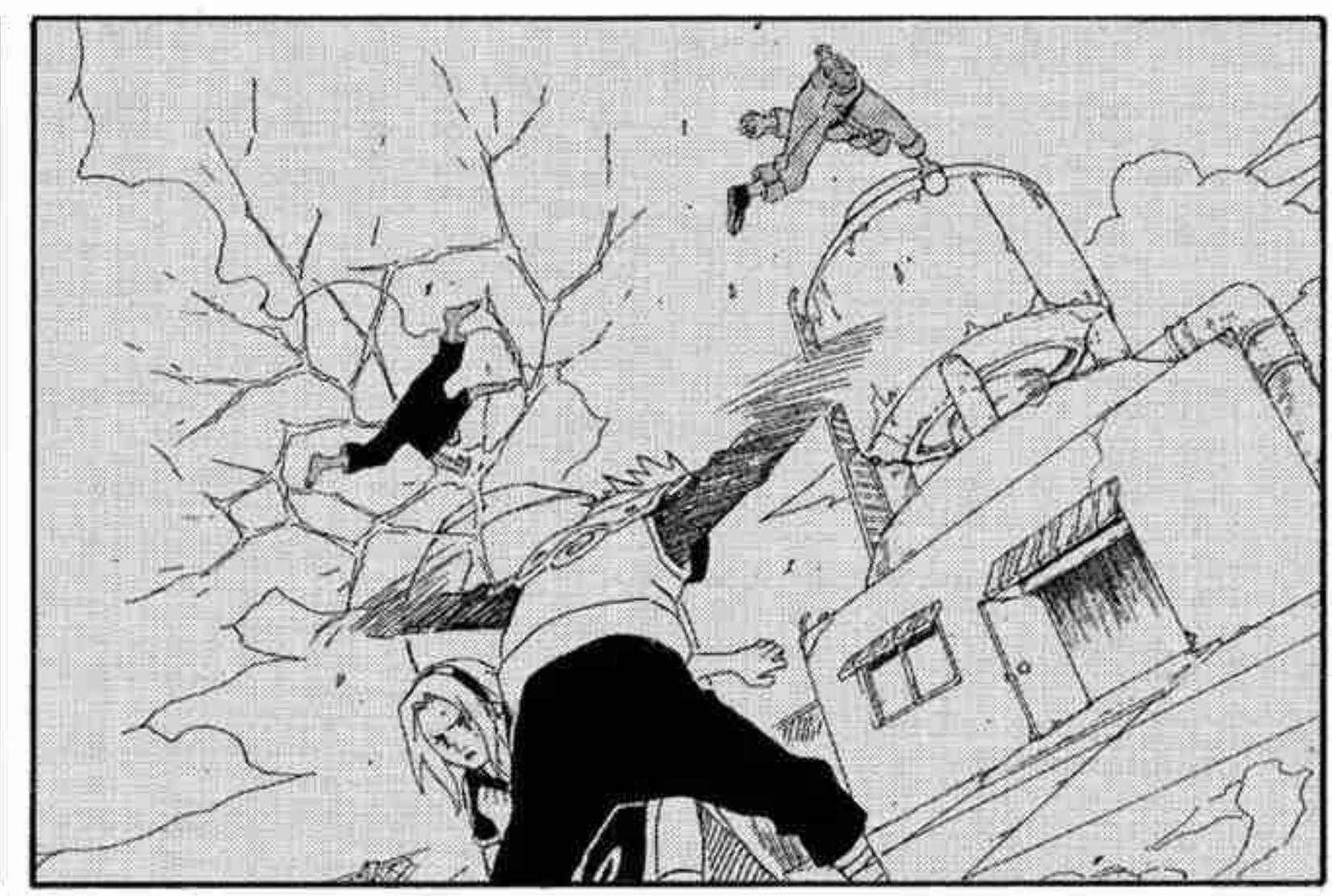






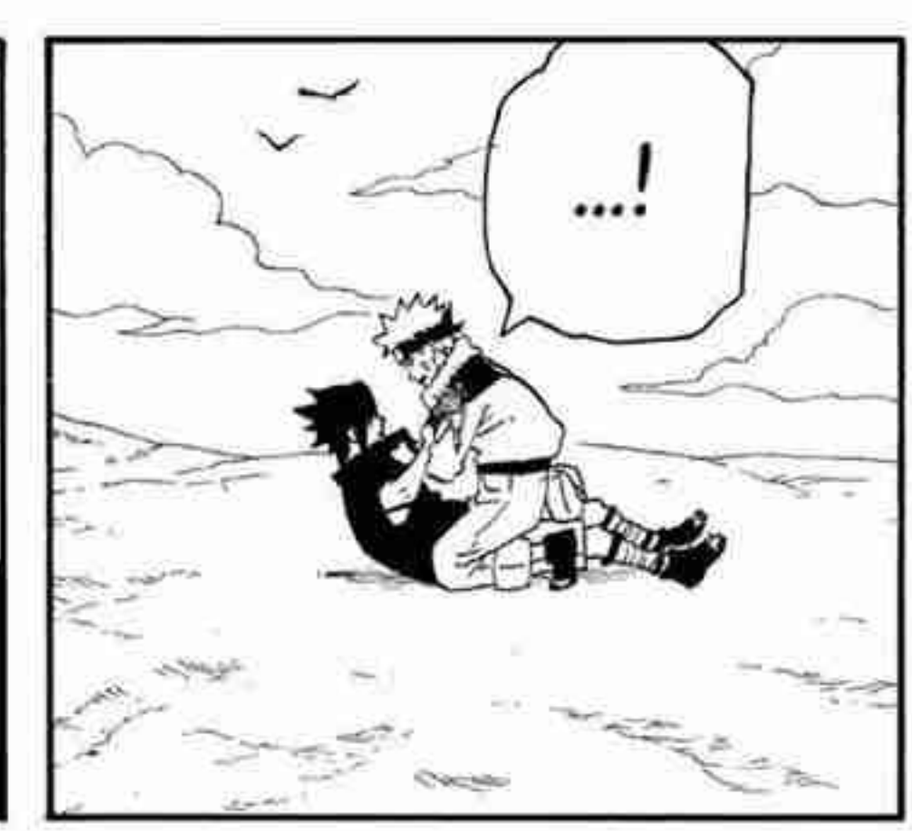

READ THIS WAY

COME TO THINK OF IT...

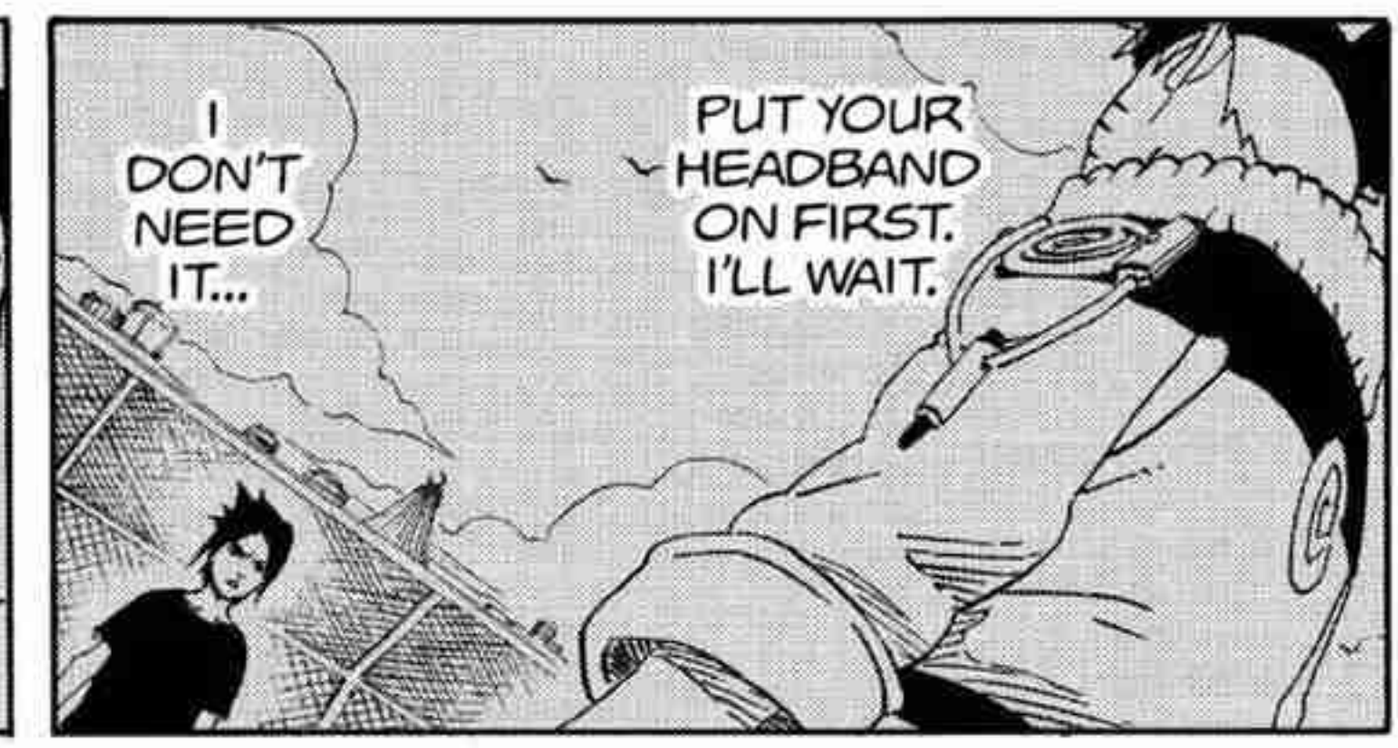


...!

...WE WERE INTER-RUPTED LAST TIME.

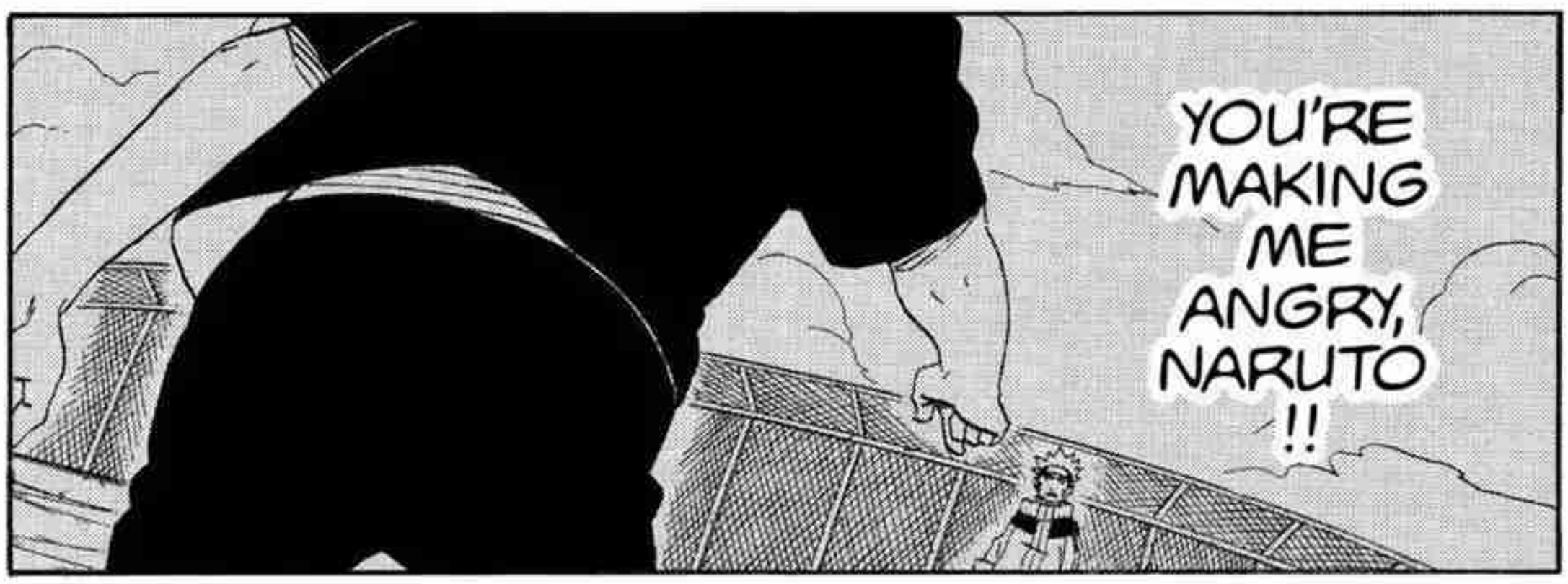

...!

SHUT UP AND BRING IT!



I'VE ALWAYS BEEN AS GOOD AS YOU!
YEAH, I DO!!

YOU THINK WE'RE EQUALS?!
I ALREADY ASKED YOU WHO YOU THINK YOU'RE FOOLING?!

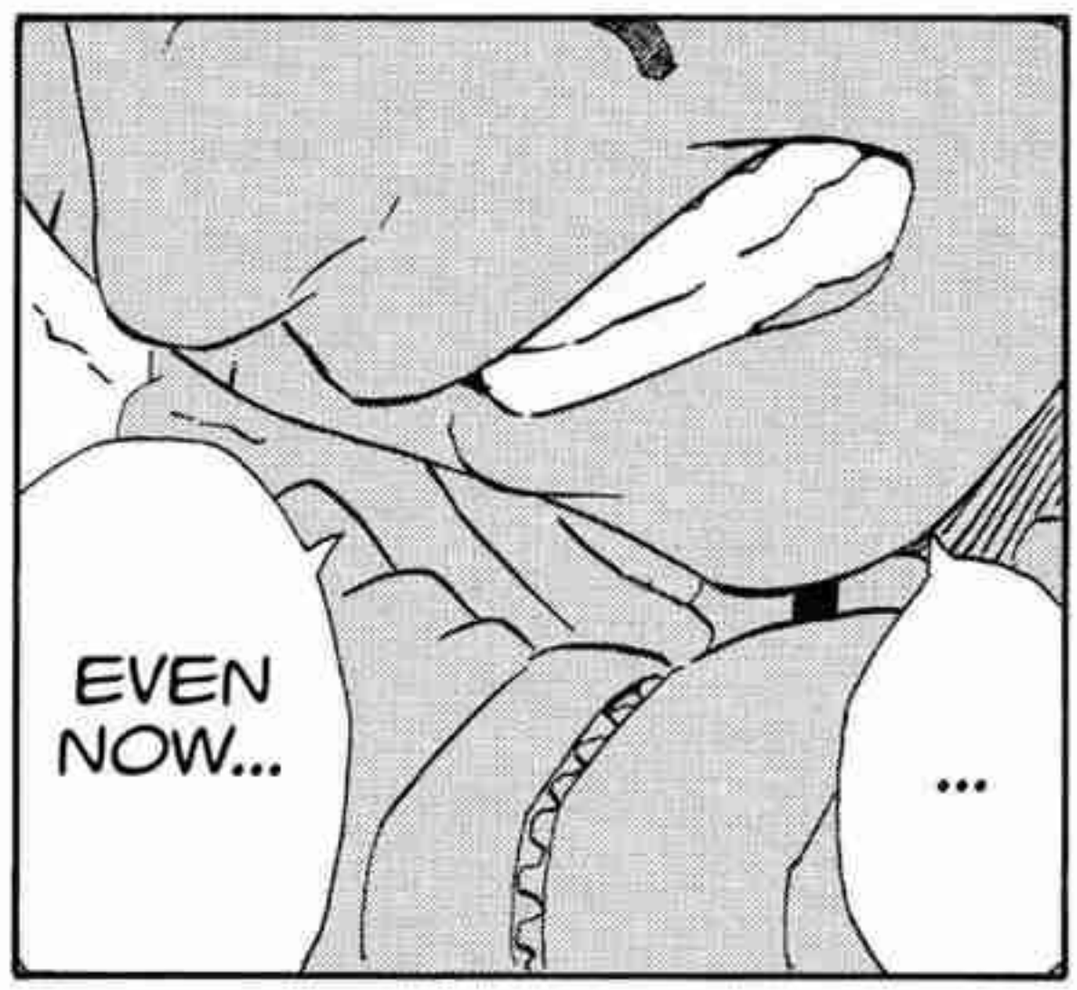

YOU'RE MAKING ME ANGRY, NARUTO!!

...THAT...

...

...

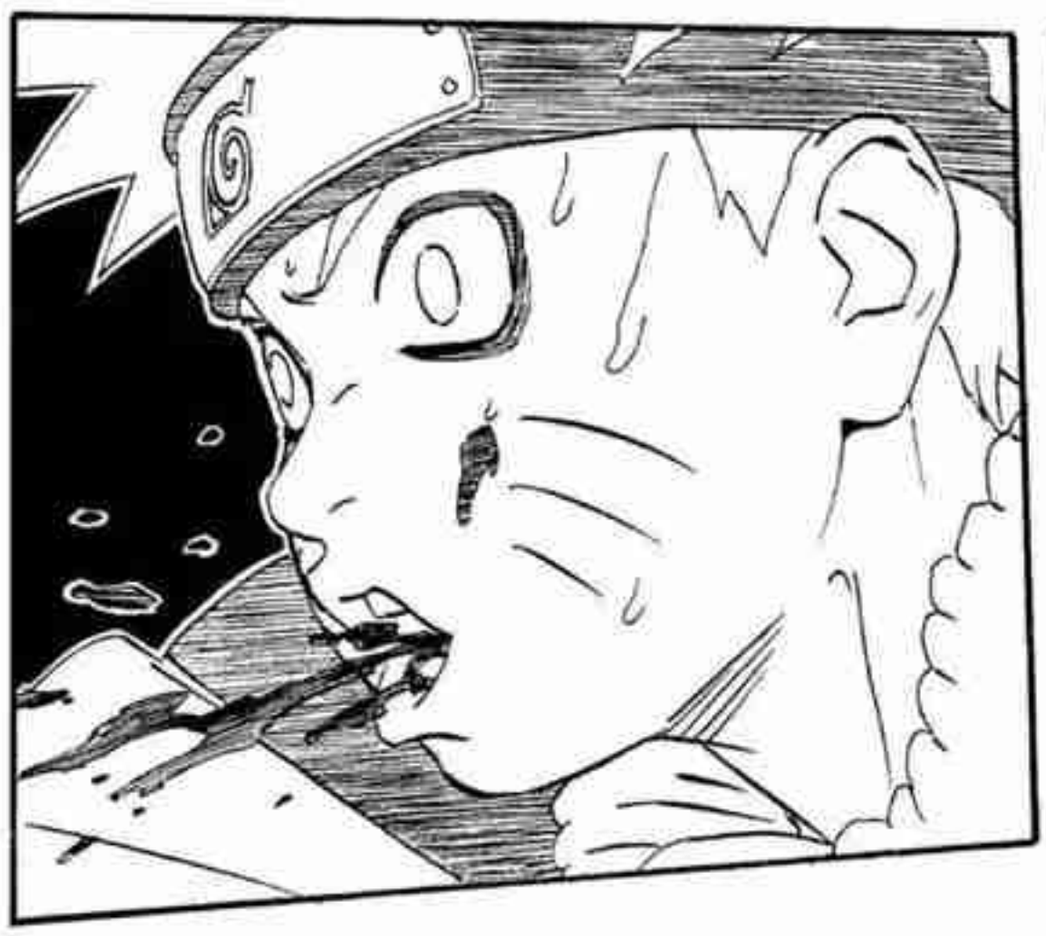
THAT WASN'T MY CHOICE.



SHA
URK...
CRACK
!
SHOOF
HWUP

WH

A!!



ARGH !!

RUMBLE

READ THIS WAY
RUMBLE
SPLAK
RUMMBLE
AGH!!
OOF...
FOOM
FOOM

...

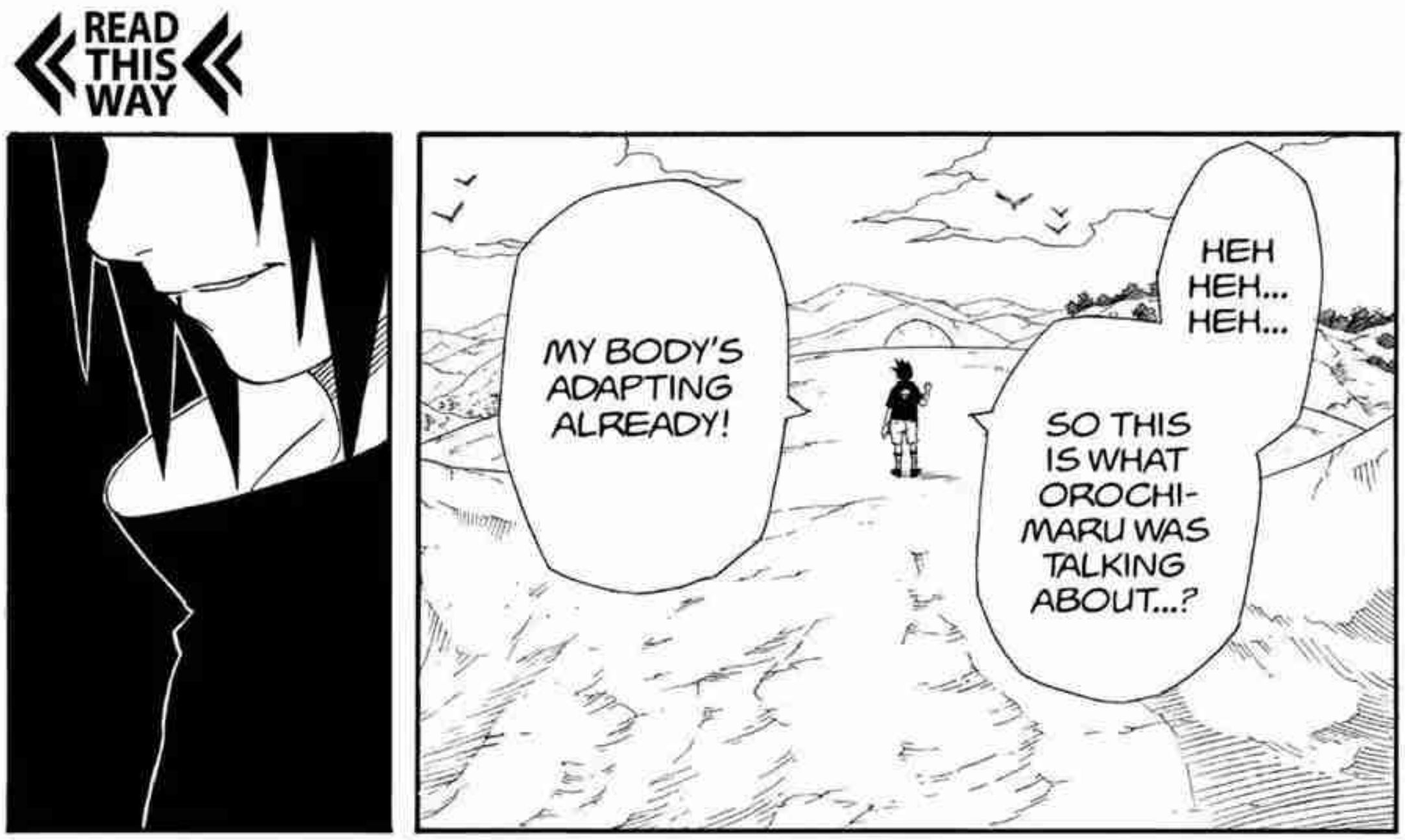
UGH...
ZING

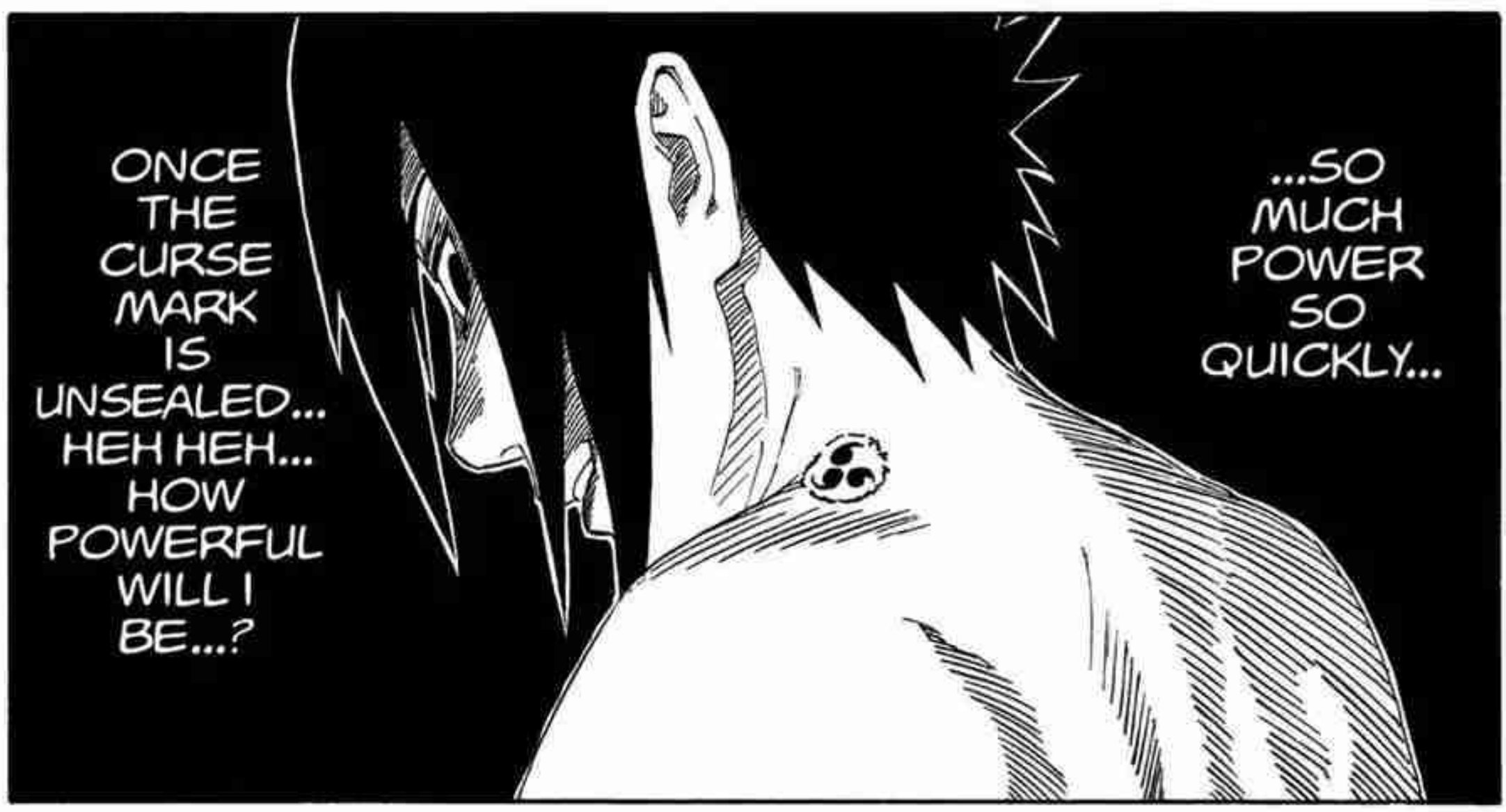
THIS POWER... SURGING INSIDE ME...!
...WHAT IS... THIS POWER ...?

F
F
F

M
M

M

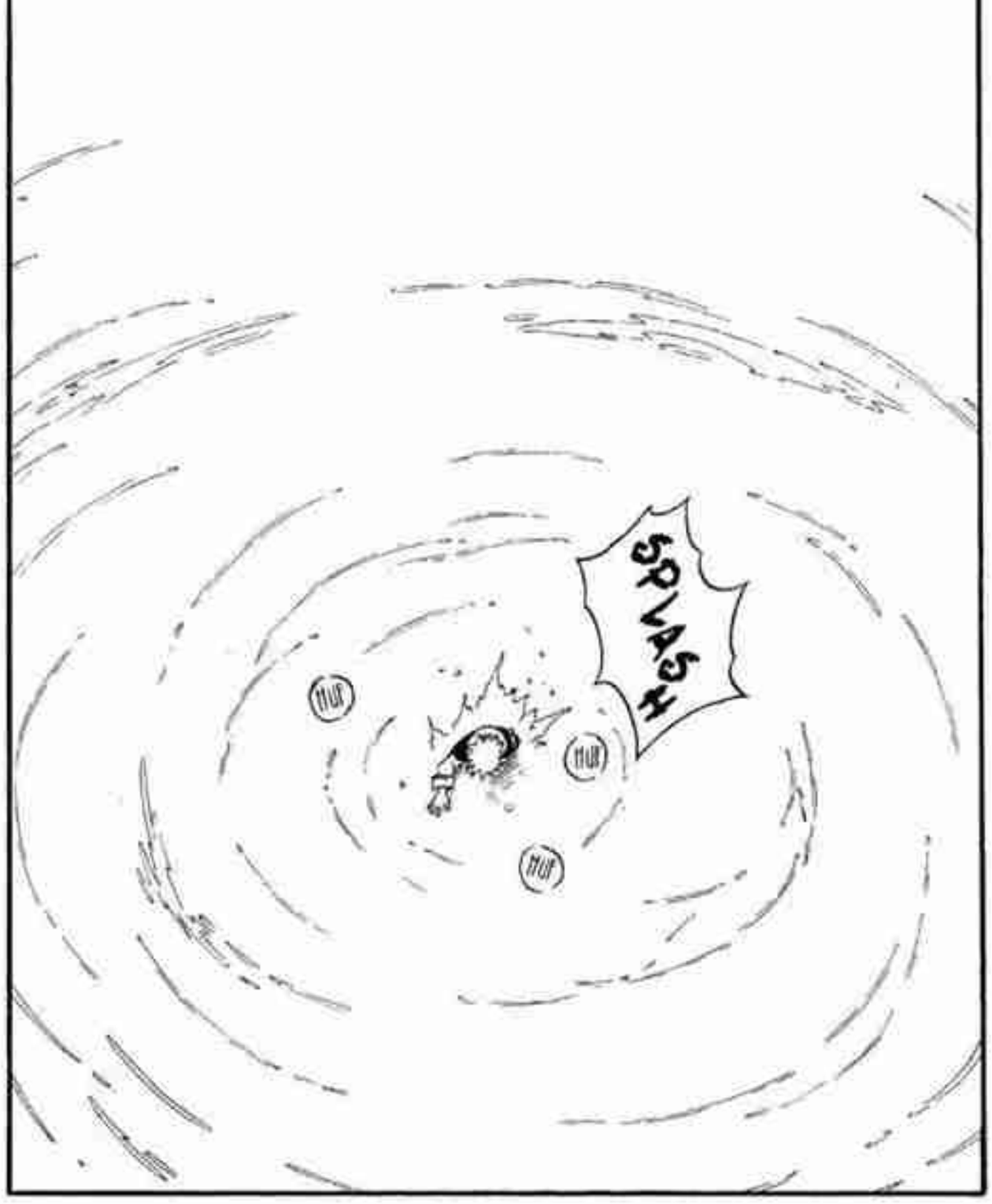

READ THIS WAY
MY BODY'S ADAPTING ALREADY!
HEH HEH... HEH...
SO THIS IS WHAT OROCHI-MARU WAS TALKING ABOUT...?


ONCE THE CURSE MARK IS UNSEALED... HEH HEH... HOW POWERFUL WILL I BE...?
...SO MUCH POWER SO QUICKLY...

GRRR

...THAT CAN'T BE SASUKE...
NGH... WHAT'S HAPPENING...?

GLUB
GLUB
BLUB


SPLASH
MUF
MUF
MUF

!

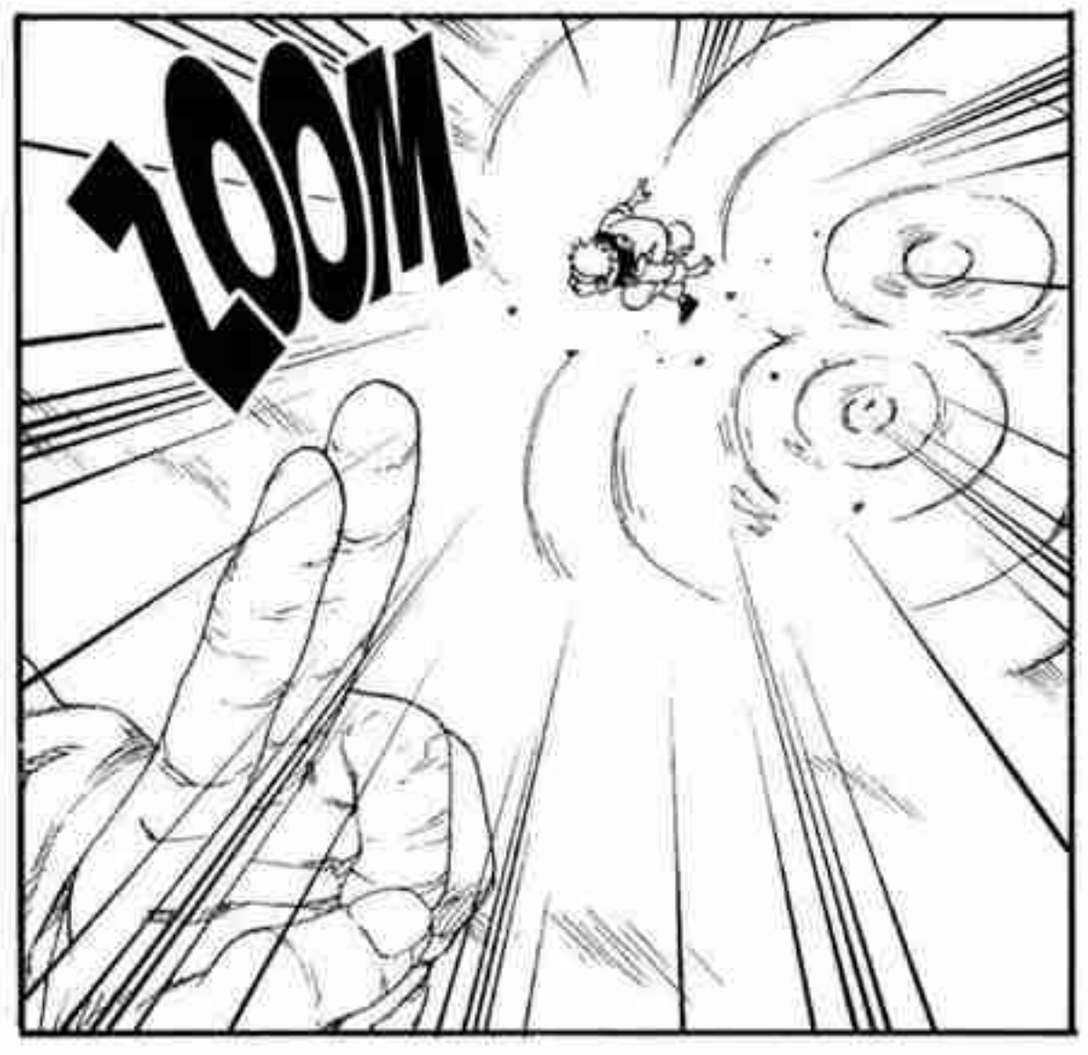
MUF
MUF
MUF

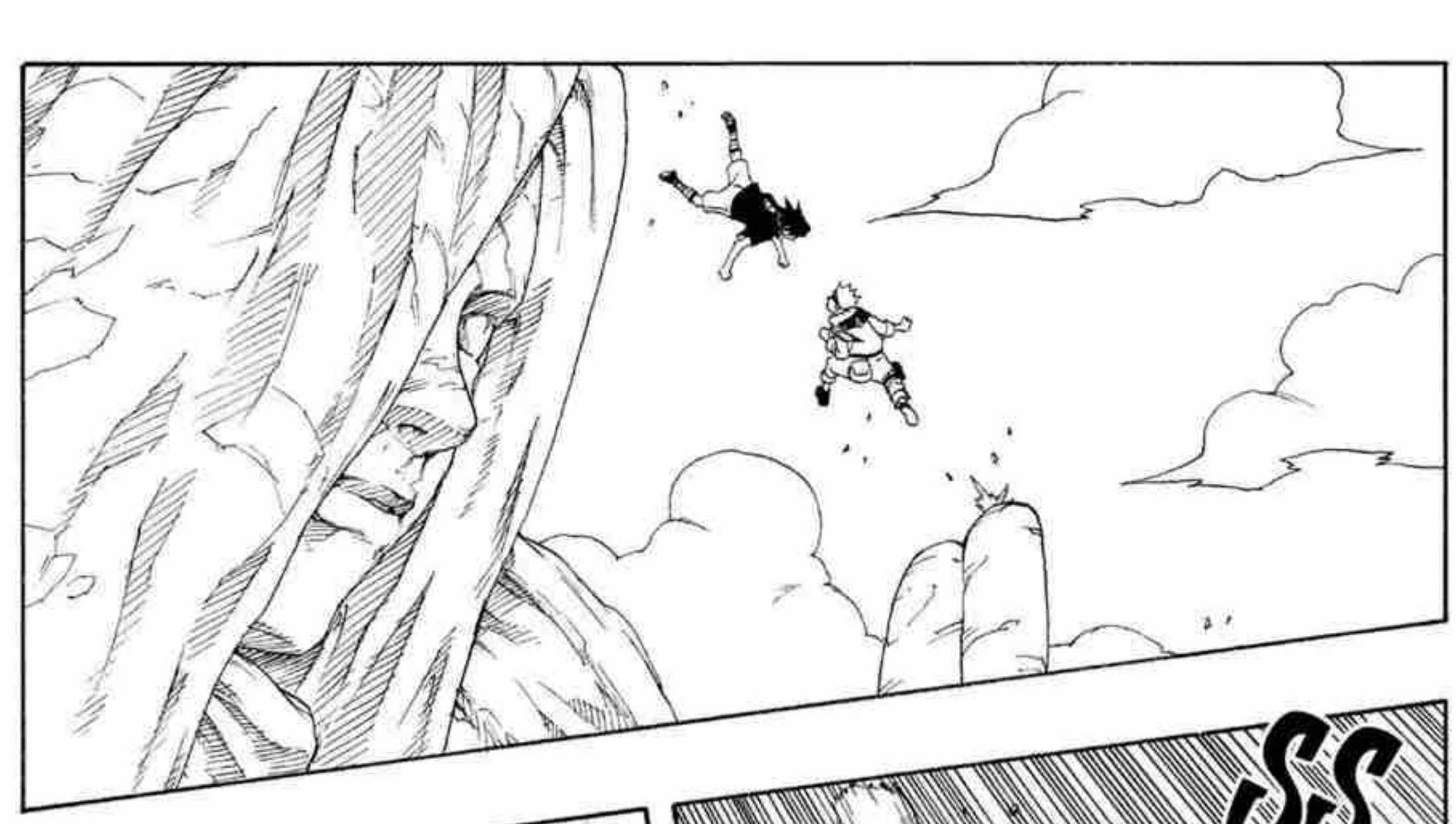
HMPH...

BOOM

READ
THIS
WAY

TAK

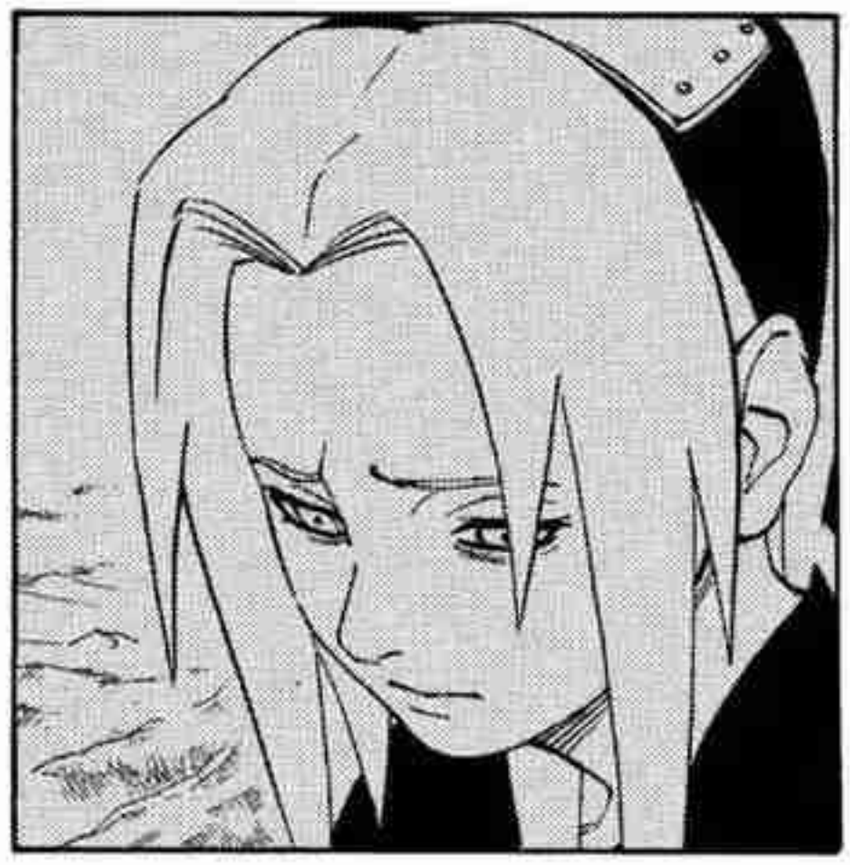

ZOOM



SHWOP
!!

CRAAP

UUF!!



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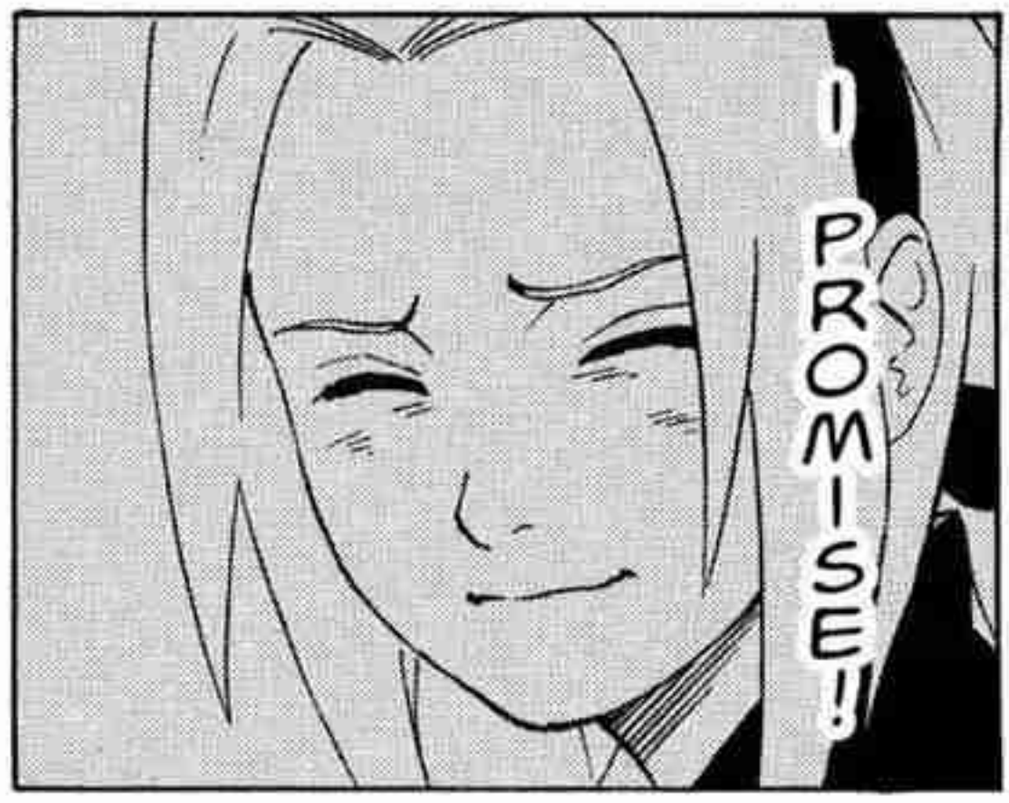
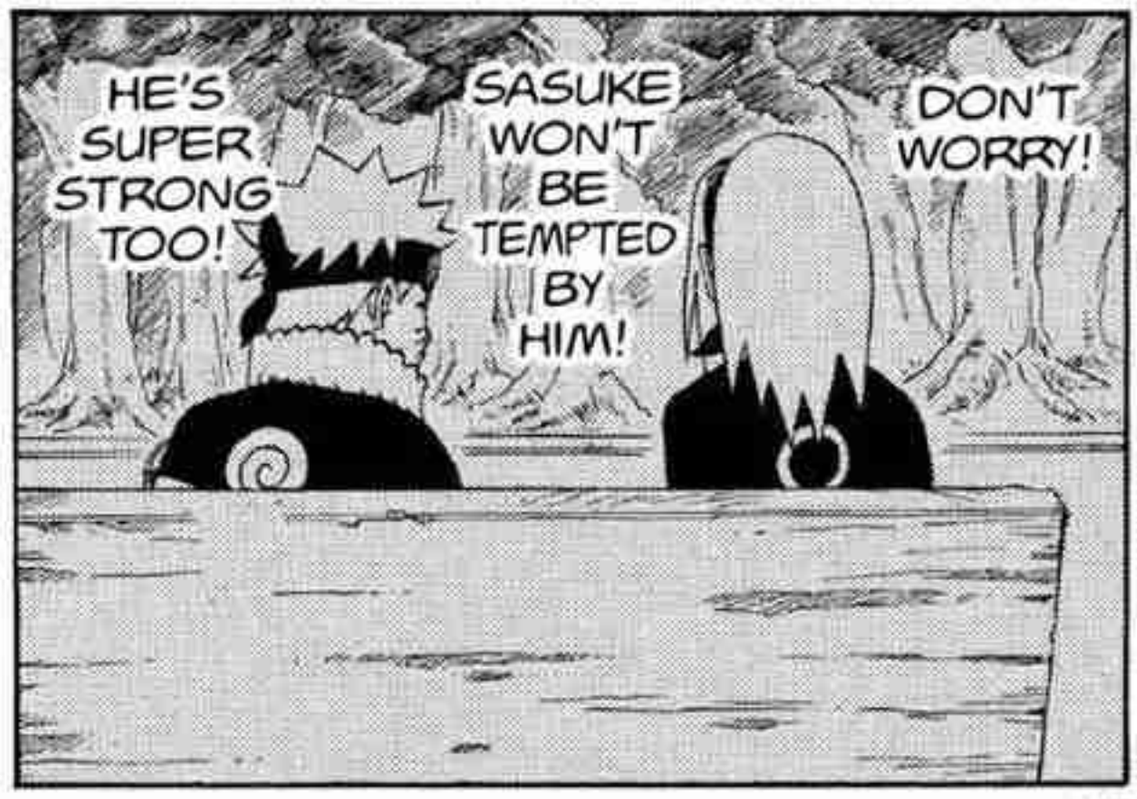
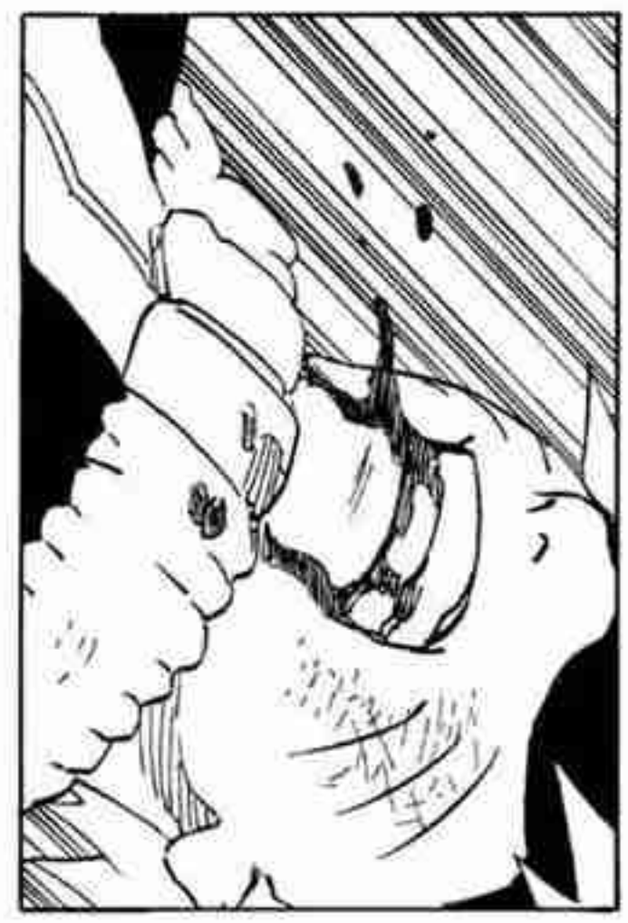

I PROMISE!


HE'S SUPER STRONG TOO!
SASUKE WON'T BE TEMPTED BY HIM!
DON'T WORRY!

BO-BOO

KAGE-BUNSHIN NO JUTSU! ART OF THE SHADOW DOPPEL-GANGER ...!!
FWIP



CHAK

PAP
PAP

PAP

?!
WACK
TH

POOF
POOF
POOF
TMP
DID THAT WAKE YOU UP?!
POOF
WHAM
...

...
DREAMING ABOUT A FUTURE THAT ISN'T GOING TO COME.

SKF

...TO WHO I AM FOR A WHILE, EVEN WHILE I WAS TRYING TO BE LIKE ALL OF YOU...

YEAH...

I'VE BEEN WIDE AWAKE...

THAT'S WHY I SEEK POWER!

!!

THAT'S WHY I LEFT!

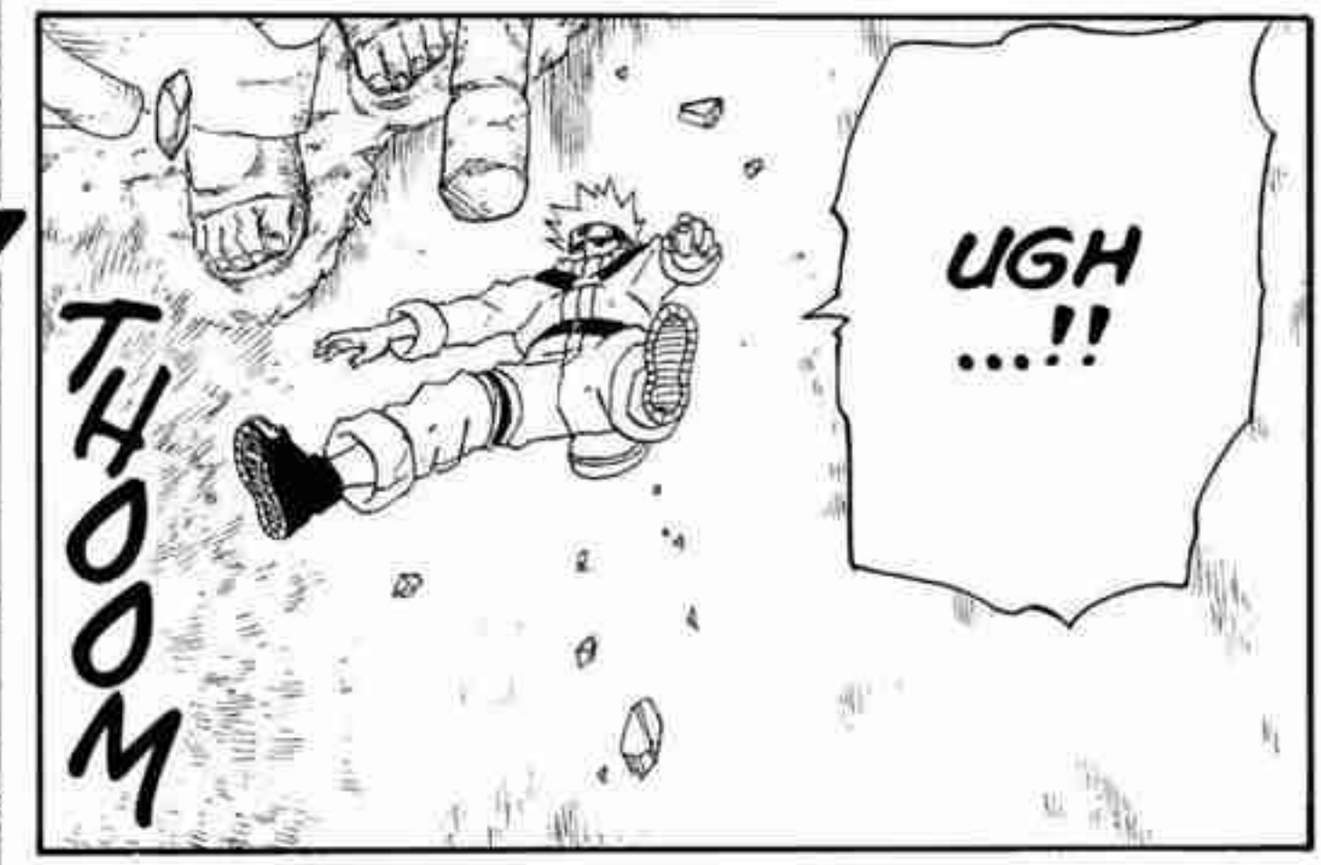
SHHF

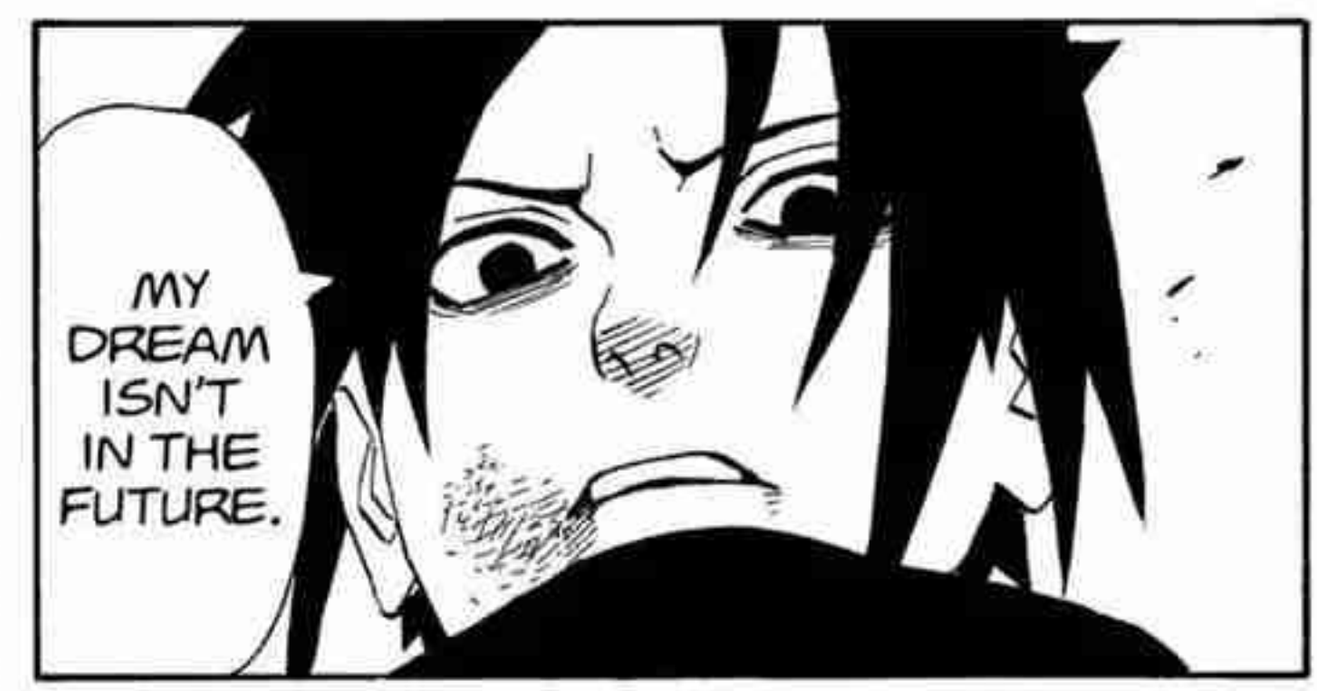
!!

THO

K

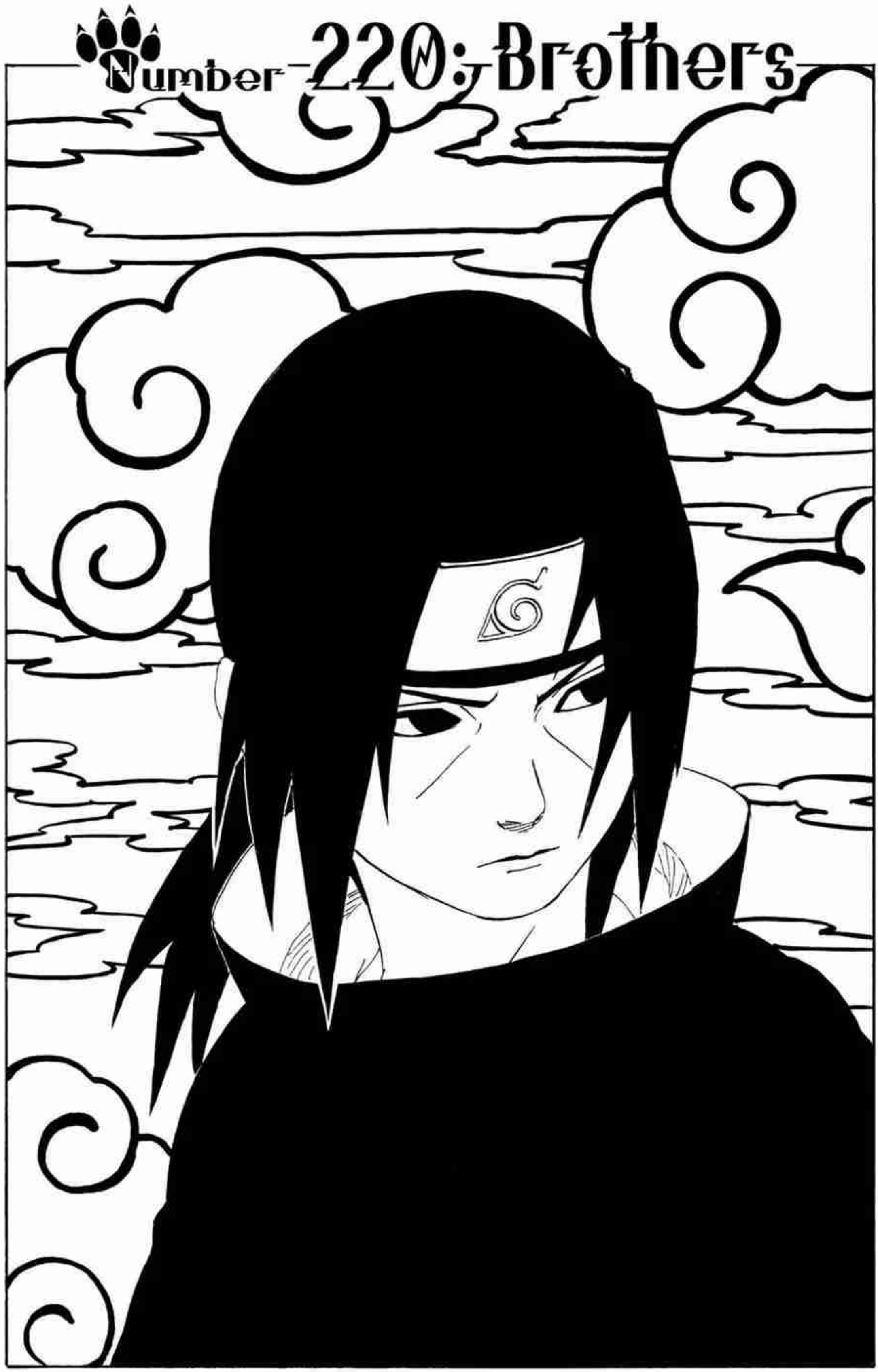
SPLOOSH


THOOM
UGH ...!!


MY DREAM ISN'T IN THE FUTURE.

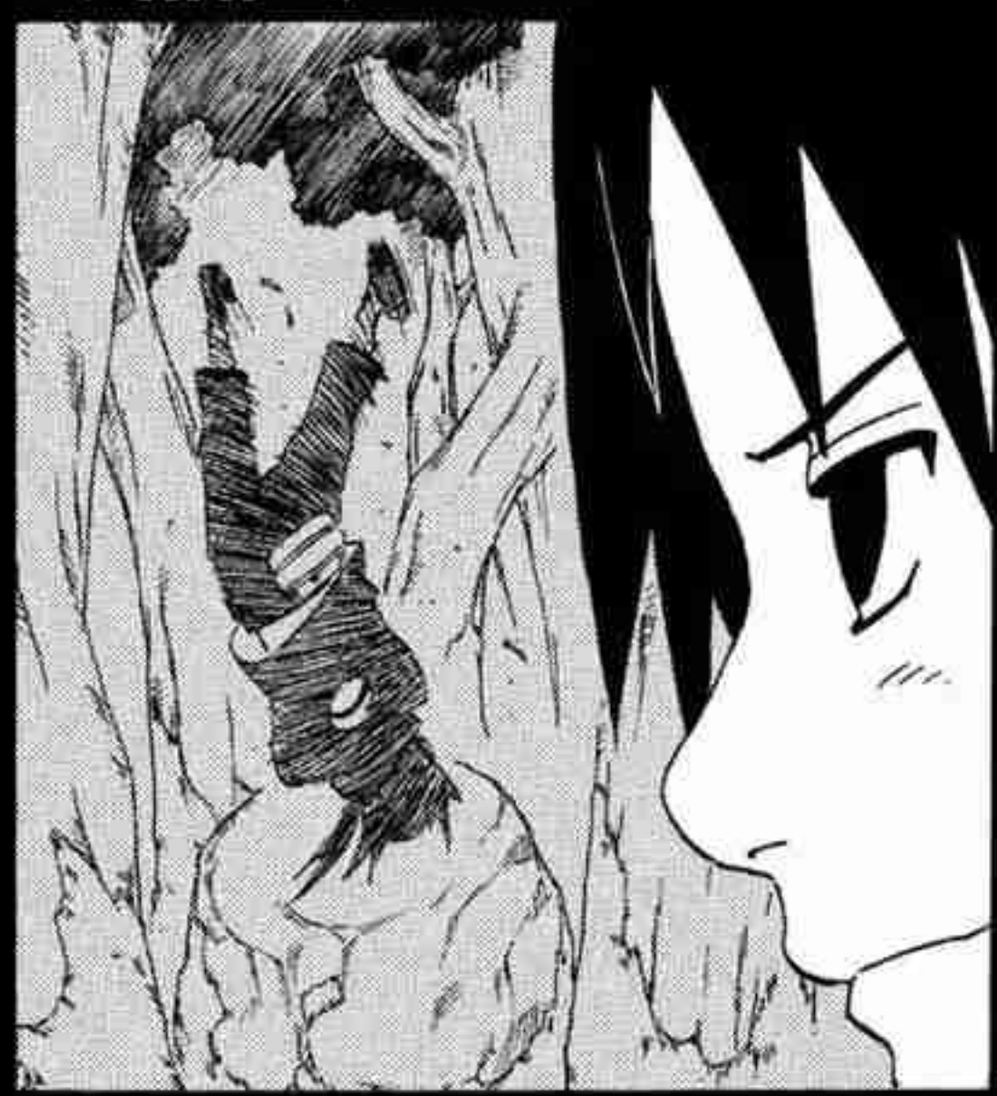
...IS ROOTED ONLY IN THE PAST.
MY DREAM ...

Number 220: Brothers

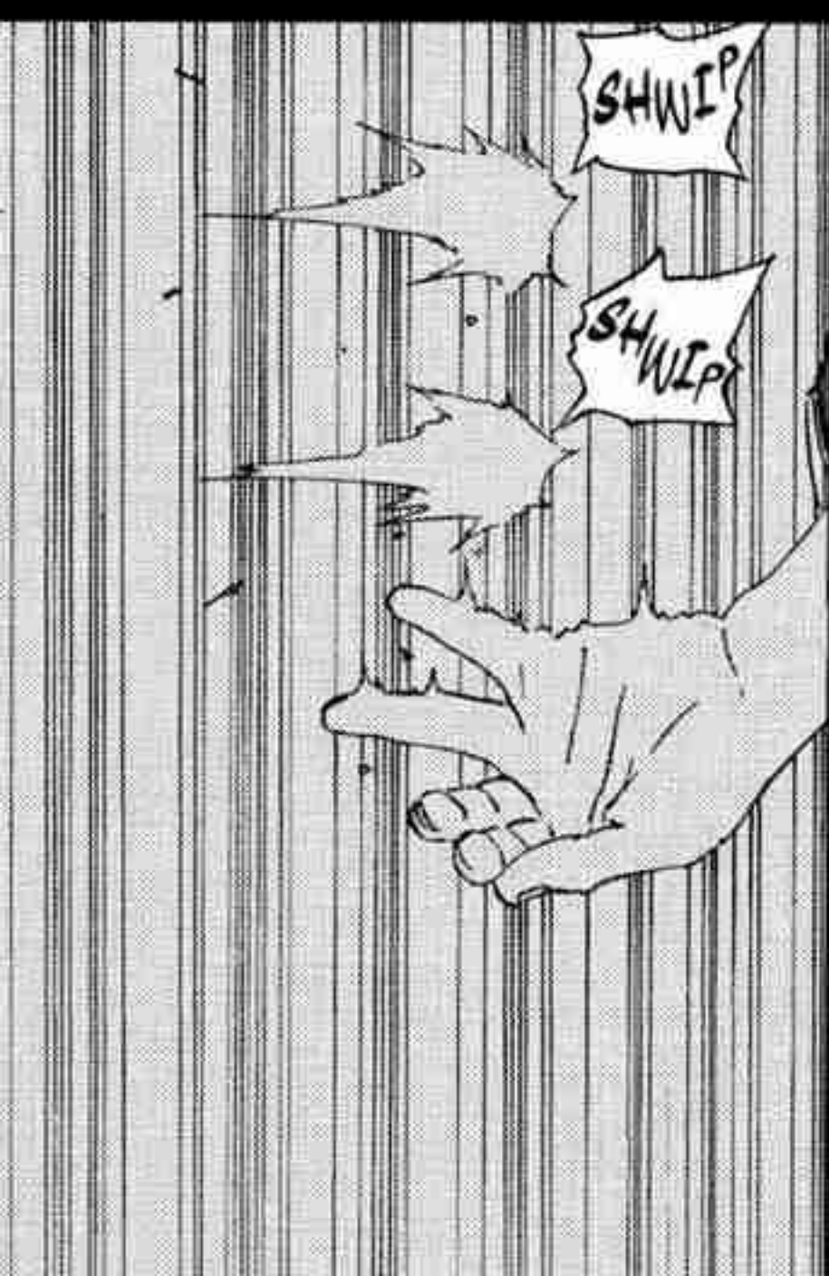


TAK
TAK

NO!
HEY...
...YOU HITCHING A FREE RIDE?
...YOU LAUGH AFTER TWISTING YOUR ANKLE?
SHF
SHF

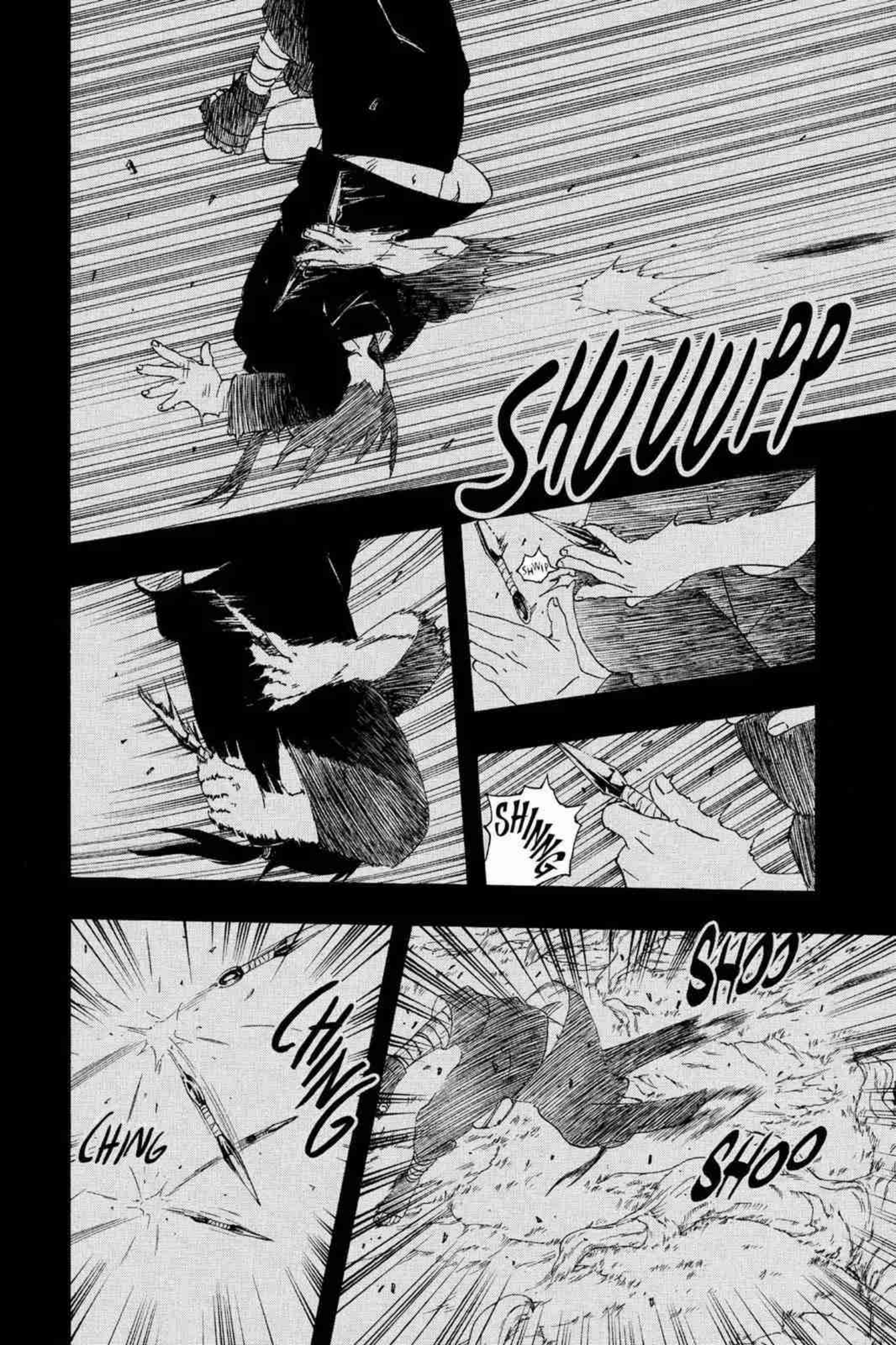


I JUST CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT NINJA ACADEMY!
I'LL CATCH UP TO YOU, BIG BROTHER.


SHWIP
SHWIP

SHWIP
SHWIP

SHUP


SHUUUPP
SHWIP
SHINNG
CHING
CHING
SHOO
SHOO

READ THIS WAY

THUK

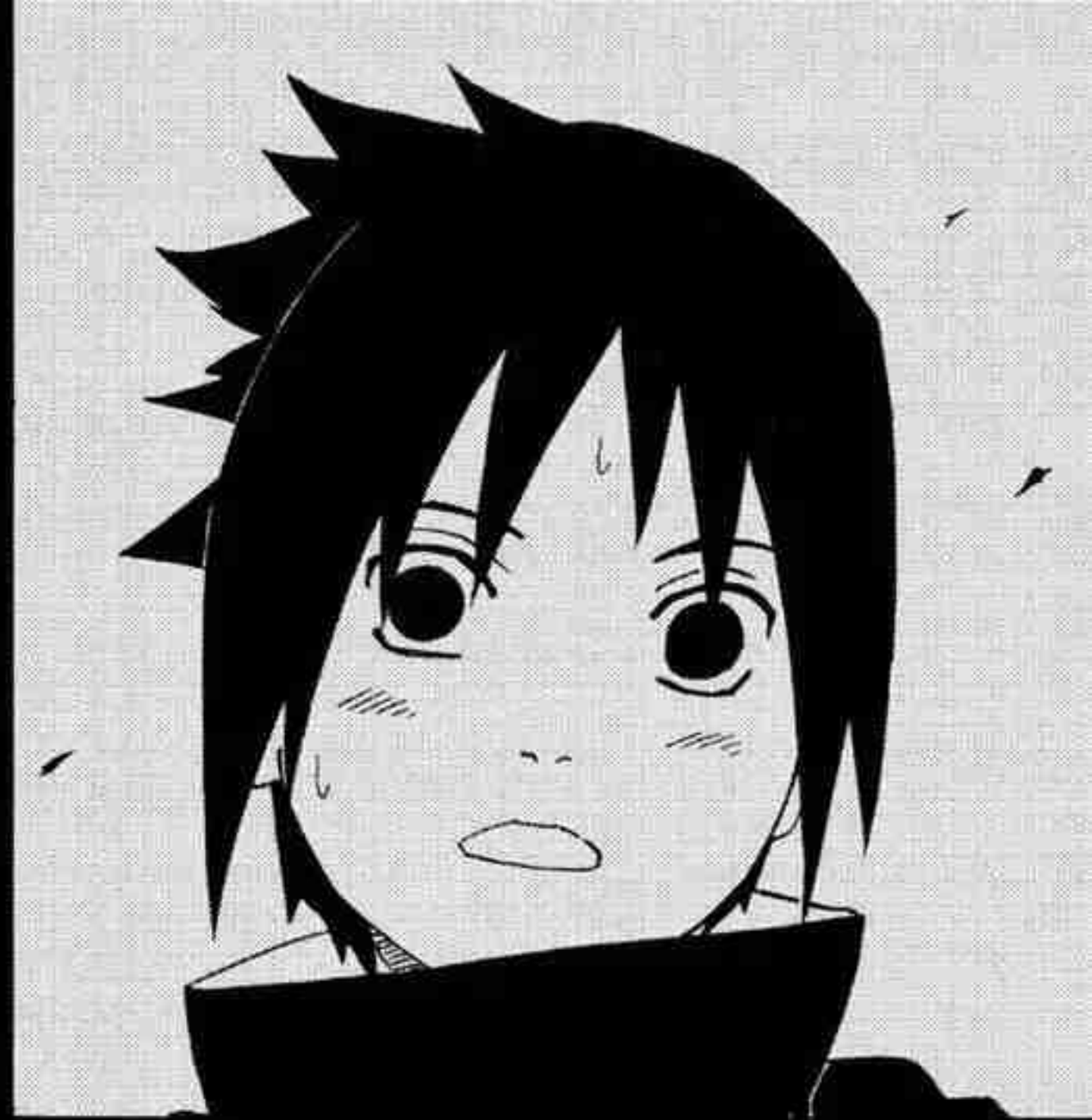
THUK

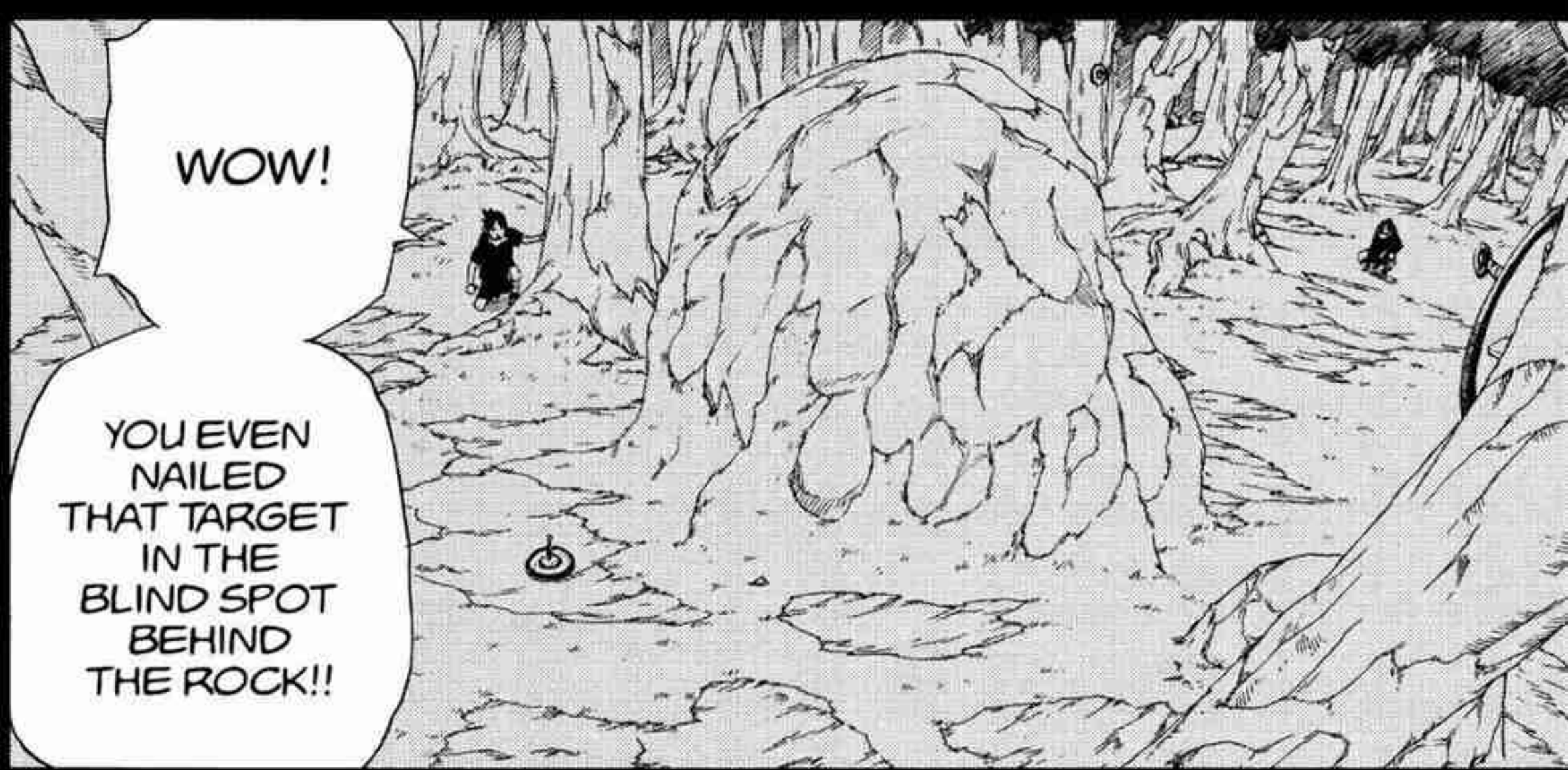
TA

K

THUK

THUK




WOW!
YOU EVEN NAILED THAT TARGET IN THE BLIND SPOT BEHIND THE ROCK!!

...SASUKE, WE HAVE TO GO.
!

SHHF
ALL RIGHT... MY TURN!

I HAVE AN IMPORTANT MISSION TOMORROW.

I HAVE TO STUDY.

HMPH

...

YOU PROMISED TO TEACH ME NEW SHURIKEN TECH-NIQUES!

C'MERE

C'MERE

...

YOU'RE A LIAR.

HMPH

...

TAK

!

GRIN

SORRY, SASUKE.

ANOTHER TIME.

OW!

TOK

SHF

CHECK THIS OUT!

...!

...

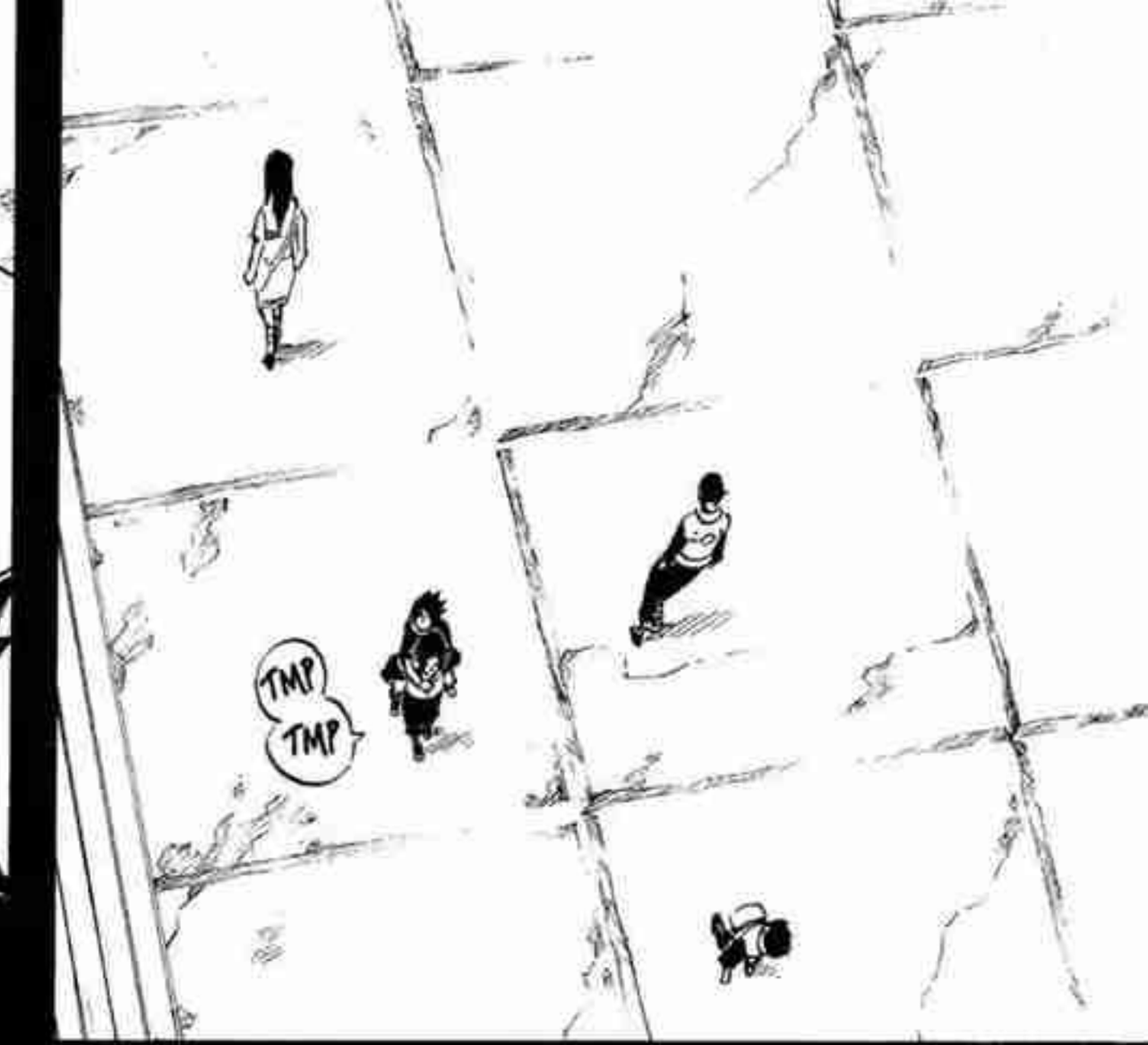
HMPH

HEE HEE ...

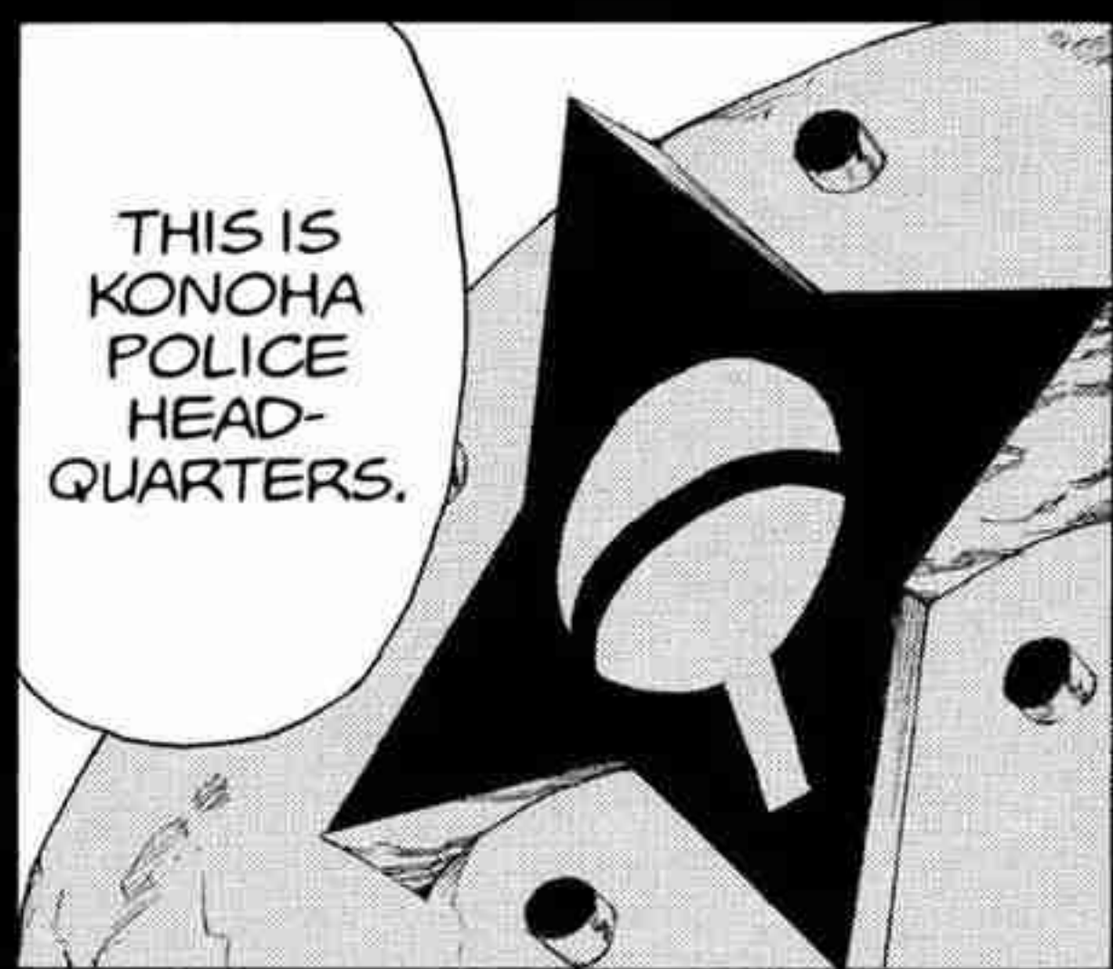
YAAAH!
HEY! YOU'RE GONNA HURT YOUR-SELF...
KA

HE'LL RESPECT ME AS MUCH AS HE RESPECTS MY BIG BROTHER.
HEH HEH ...

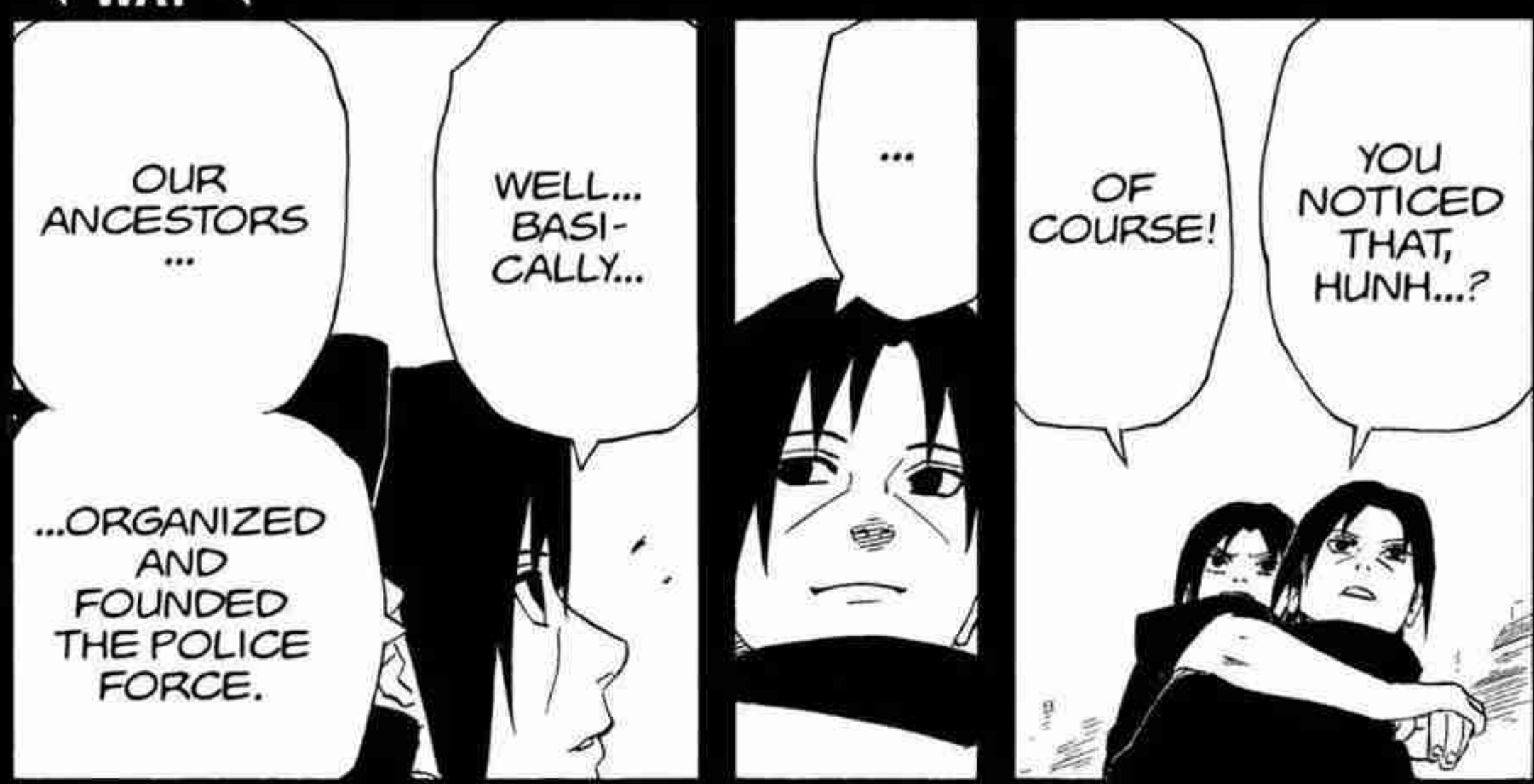
THEN, EVEN FATHER WILL RECOG-NIZE MY ABILITY.
STARTING TOMOR-ROW, I'M GONNA GIVE IT MY ALL AT THE ACADEMY.

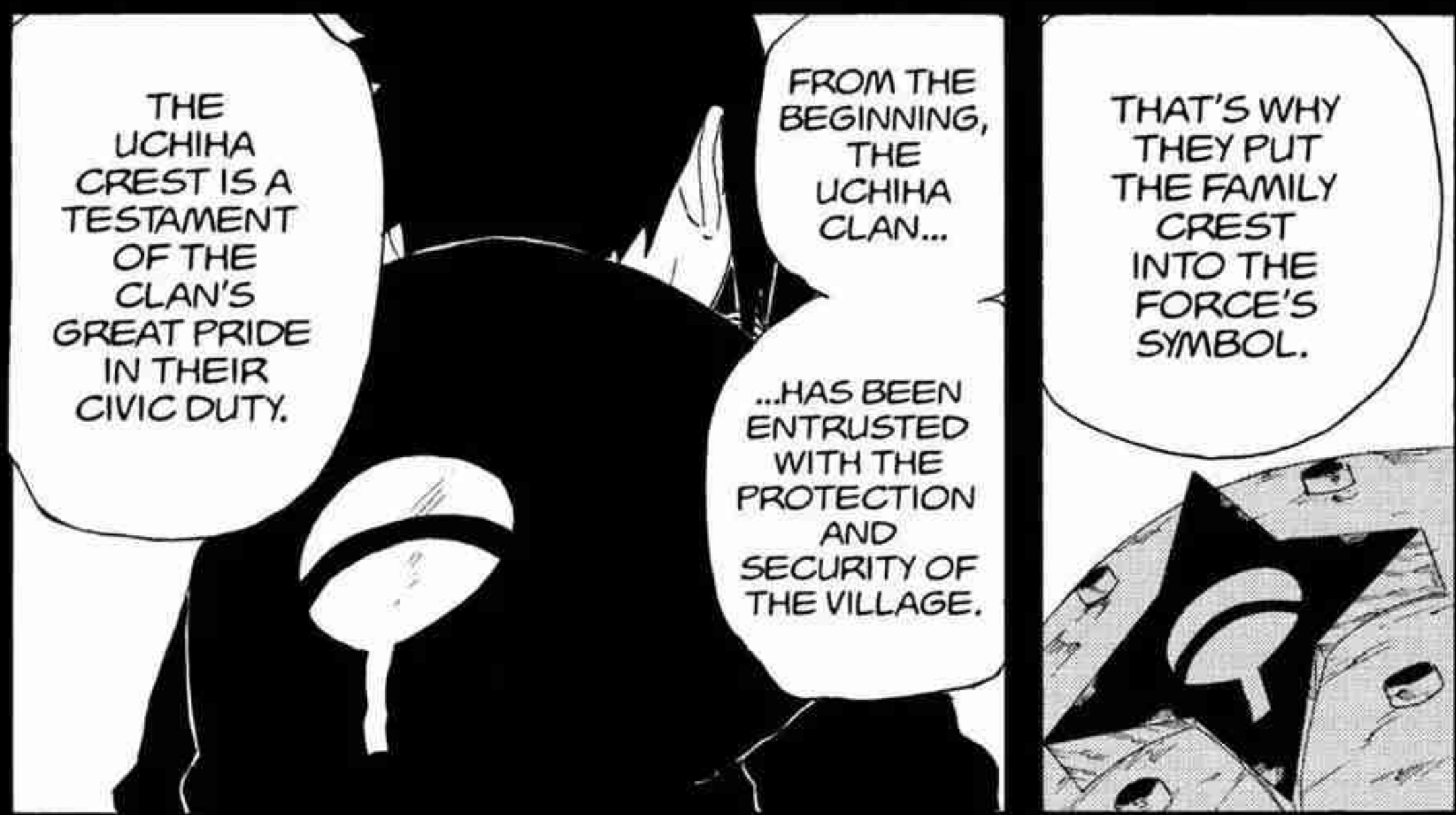


(SIGN: KONOHA POLICE FORCE)



READ THIS WAY


OUR ANCESTORS ...
...ORGANIZED AND FOUNDED THE POLICE FORCE.
WELL... BASI-CALLY...
...
OF COURSE!
YOU NOTICED THAT, HUNH...?


THE UCHIHA CREST IS A TESTAMENT OF THE CLAN'S GREAT PRIDE IN THEIR CIVIC DUTY.
FROM THE BEGINNING, THE UCHIHA CLAN...
...HAS BEEN ENTRUSTED WITH THE PROTECTION AND SECURITY OF THE VILLAGE.
THAT'S WHY THEY PUT THE FAMILY CREST INTO THE FORCE'S SYMBOL.

BUT EVEN TODAY, NEARLY ALL CLAN MEMBERS BELONG TO THE FIRST SQUADRON OF THE POLICE FORCE AND MAINTAIN VILLAGE SECURITY.
NOW, THERE ARE FEWER UCHIHA...

...ARE EVEN GREATER SHINOBI.

THE ONLY ONES CAPABLE OF CRACKING DOWN ON SHINOBI CRIME...

SKF

I KNEW FATHER WAS GREAT!

...

...

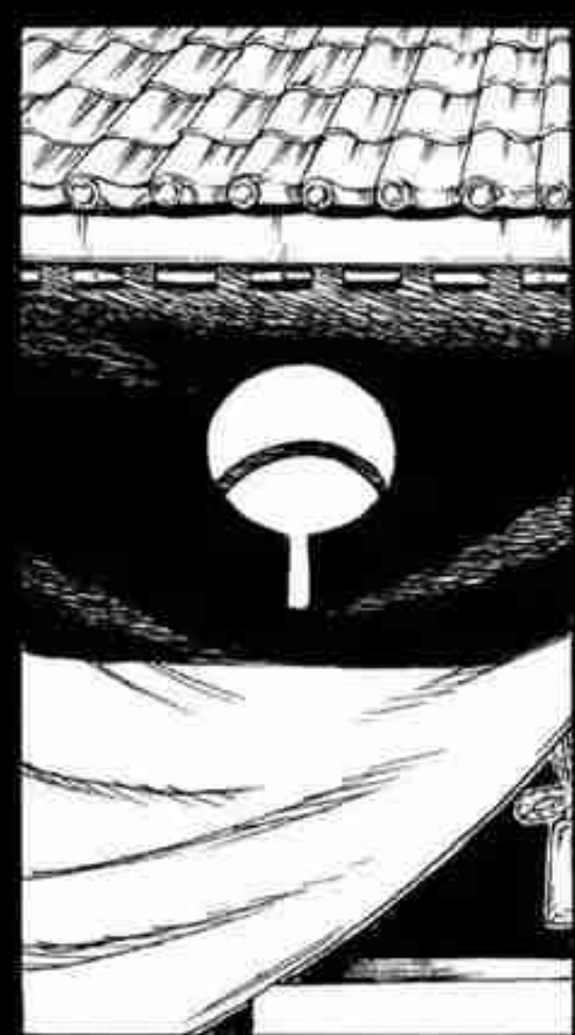
YOU SHOULD!

WELL... I DON'T KNOW...

ARE YOU GONNA JOIN THE POLICE FORCE, TOO?

I'M GONNA JOIN THE POLICE FORCE TOO!!

THEN WHEN I GROW UP...



LET'S GET HOME.

...
...!

YES, FATHER.

YOU'RE LATE... WHAT WERE YOU UP TO?
I HAVE SOME-THING TO TELL YOU.

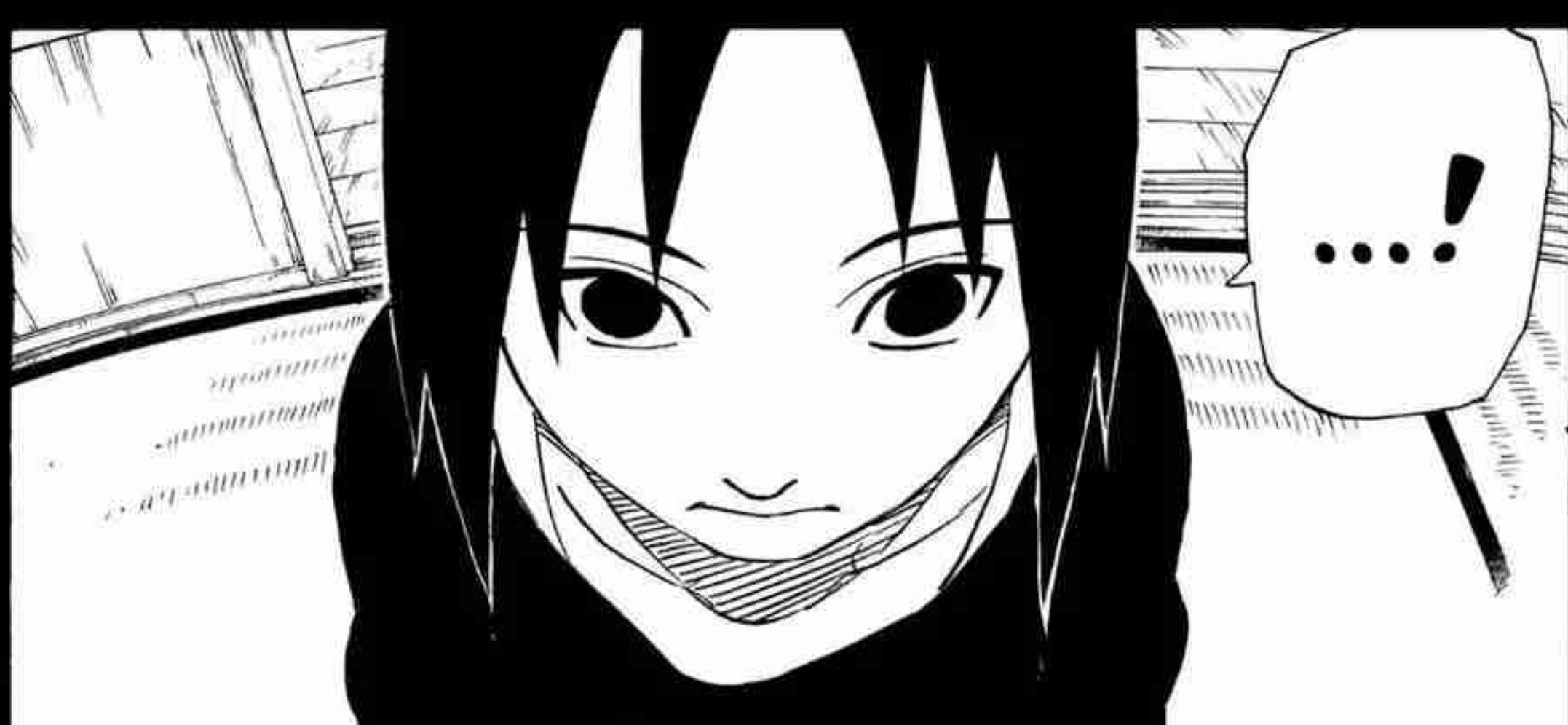
...

IT'S BEEN ONLY SIX MONTHS SINCE YOUR PROMO-TION TO CHÛNIN...
...YOU'VE ALREADY COME SO FAR.
HA HA... THAT'S MY BOY...

!

I'VE DECIDED TO GO ALONG.
ABOUT TOMOR-ROW'S SPECIAL MISSION...

...


...!

...
ENTRANCE INTO THE ANBU BLACK OPS WILL BE ASSURED.

IF THIS MISSION IS SUCCESS-FUL, ITACHI...

...

YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT ...?

SHHF

...

...

...!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY SO MUCH.

BESIDES ...

READ THIS WAY
TOMOR-ROW'S MISSION ...
...WILL BE IMPORTANT FOR THE CLAN TOO!
TOMOR-ROW IS MY...
FATHER ...
I'M NOT GOING ON TOMOR-ROW'S MISSION.
!
...
...
...
WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU SAYING ?!
YOU KNOW HOW IMPOR-TANT IT IS!
HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND ?!
?!

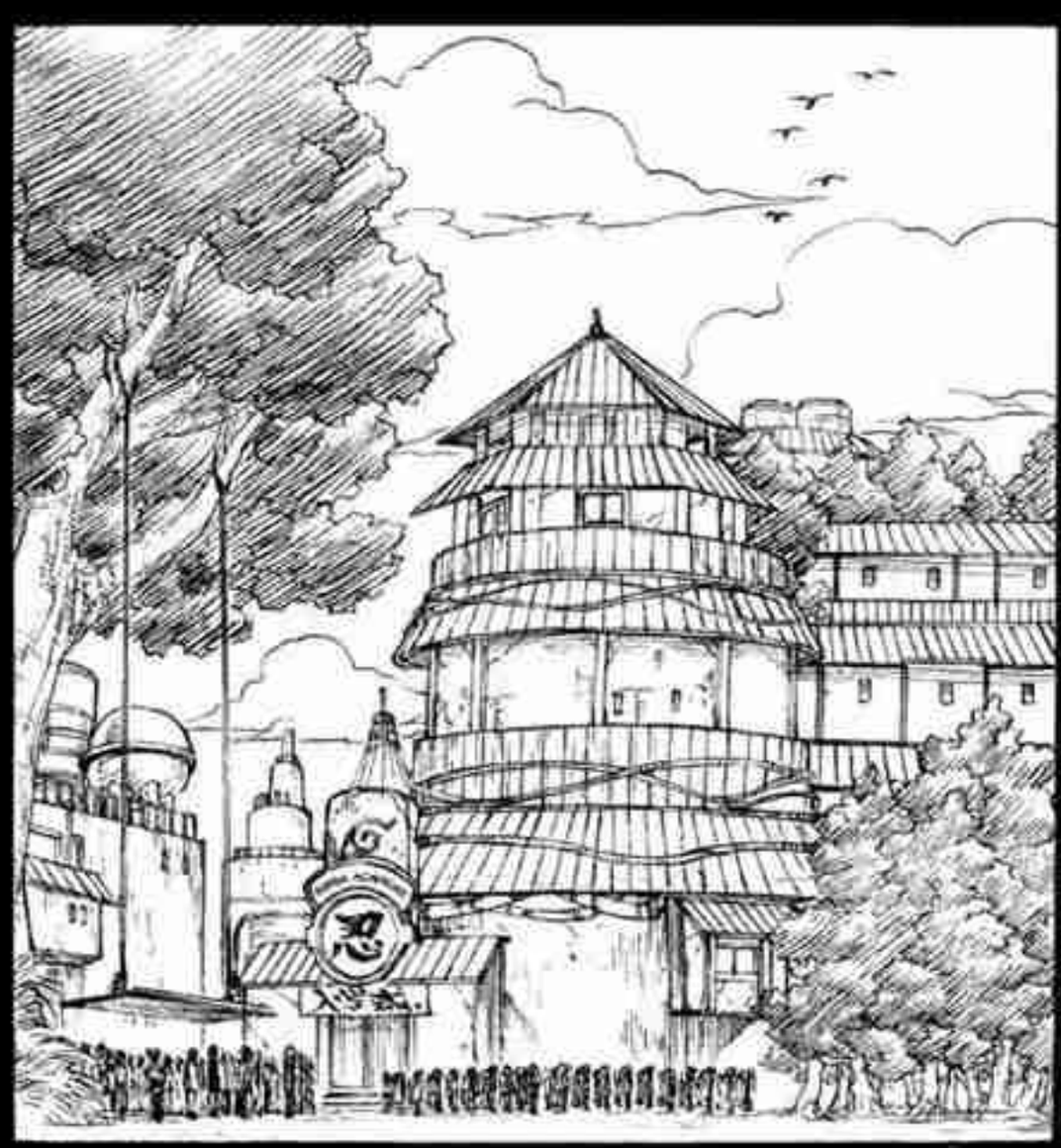
TOMORROW, I'M ATTENDING SASUKE'S NINJA ACADEMY ENTRANCE CEREMONY.

YOU'RE SO FAR AWAY...

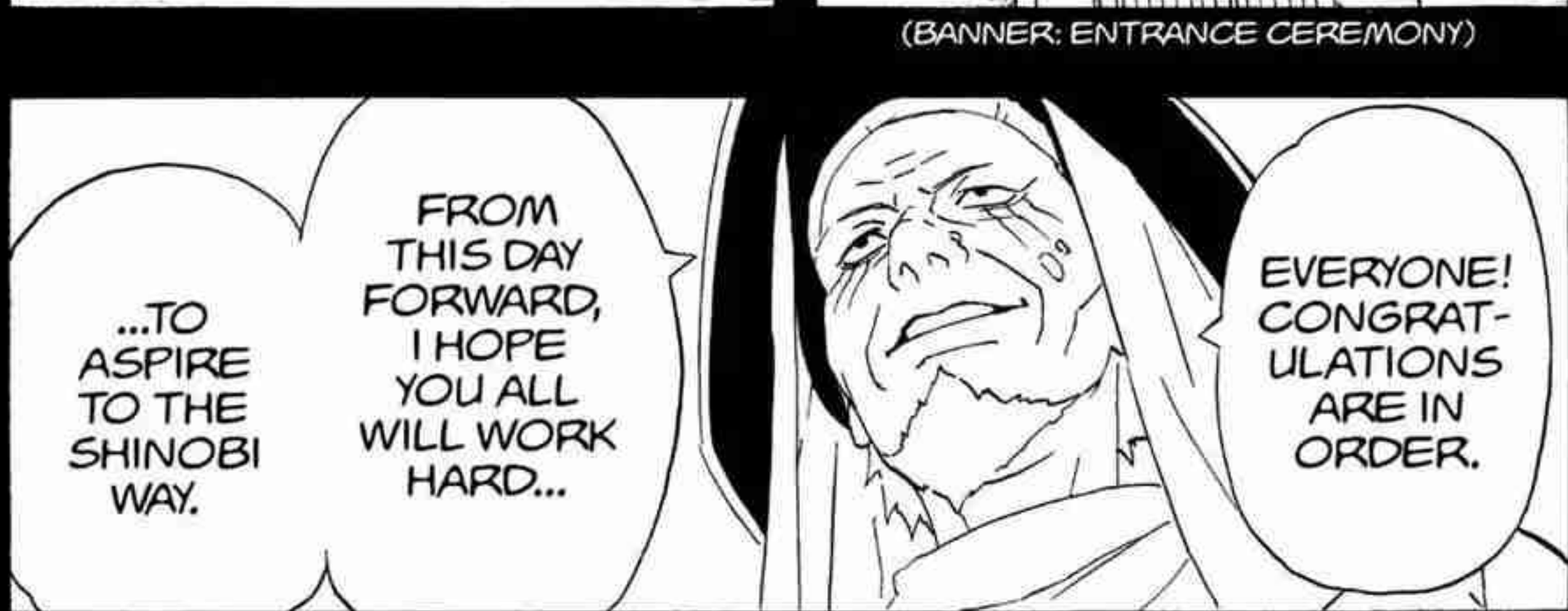
BIG BROTHER...

NARUTO
TM

Number 221: Out of Reach



(BANNER: ENTRANCE CEREMONY)



忍
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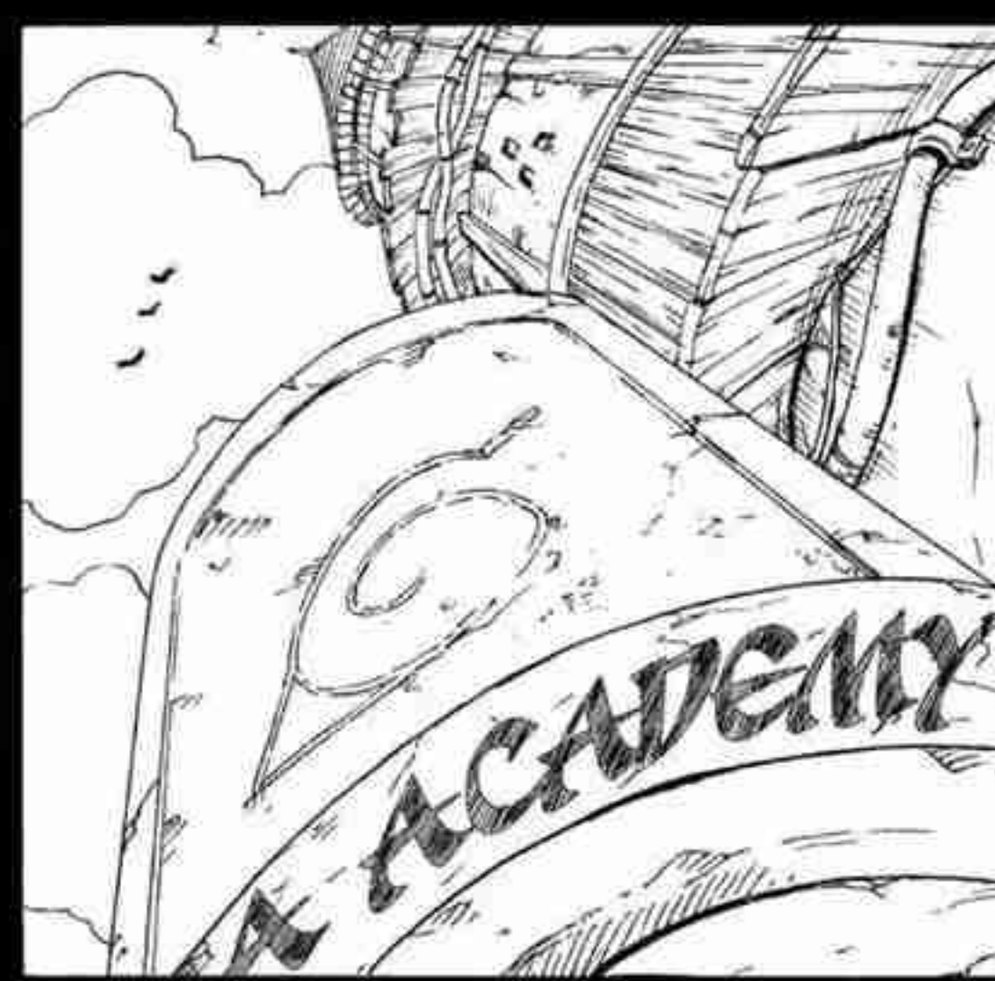
...


ACADEMY

I GUESS THAT'S TO BE EXPECTED.
WELL...
YOU REMIND ME OF ITACHI.

YOU HONOR US BY TEACH-ING BOTH SONS.

...

WE BARELY HAD TO TEACH HIM ANYTHING AT ALL.

ITACHI WAS THE MOST GIFTED STUDENT I EVER HAD THE PLEASURE TO MENTOR... I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A REMARKABLE STUDENT.

THE HONOR IS MINE.

I EXPECT GREAT THINGS OF YOU, SASUKE.

...

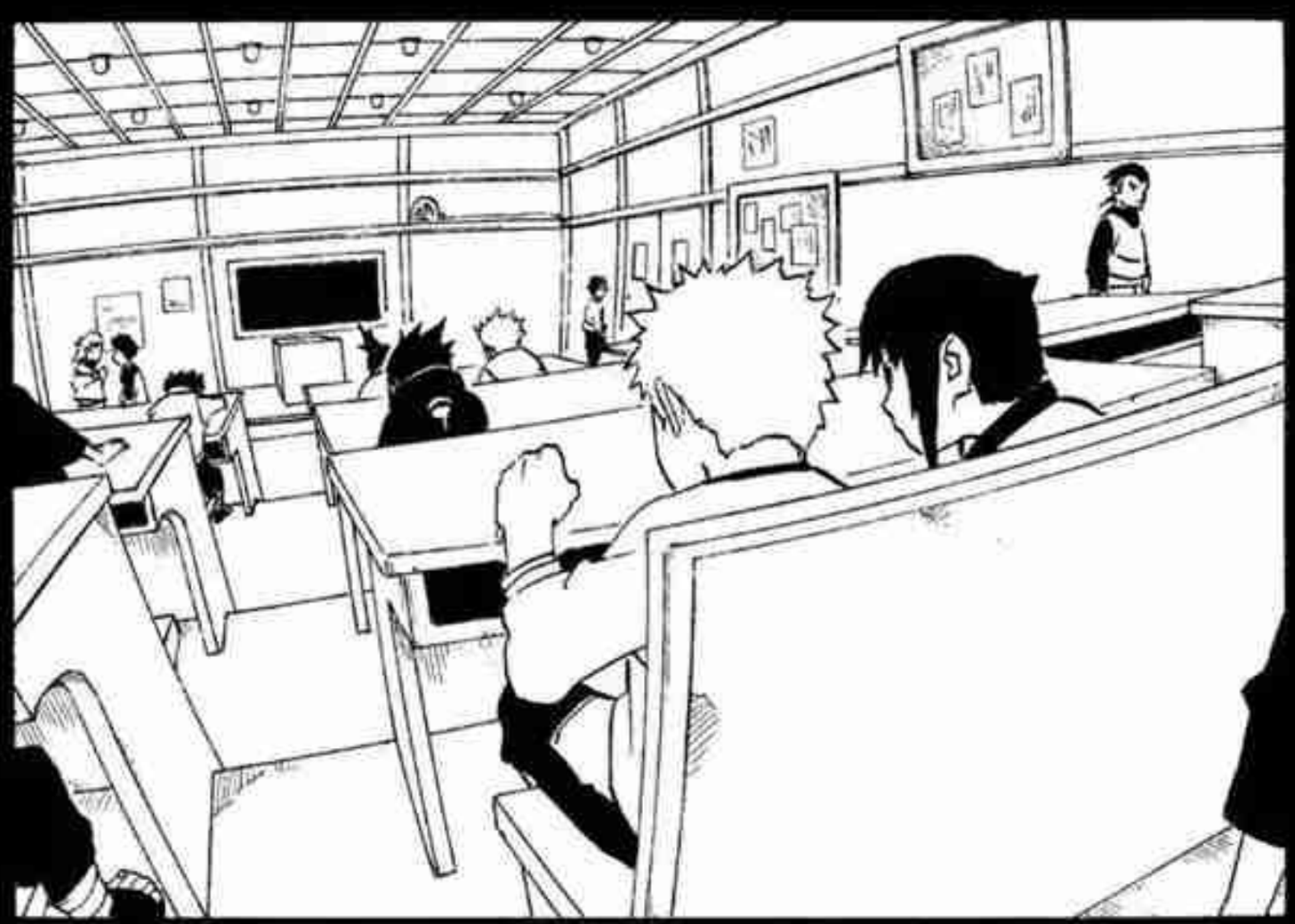
YOU EXAGGER-ATE.

NO, NO.

...

FOLLOW YOUR BIG BROTHER'S EXAMPLE AND BECOME A GOOD SHINOBI.

...YES, FATHER.



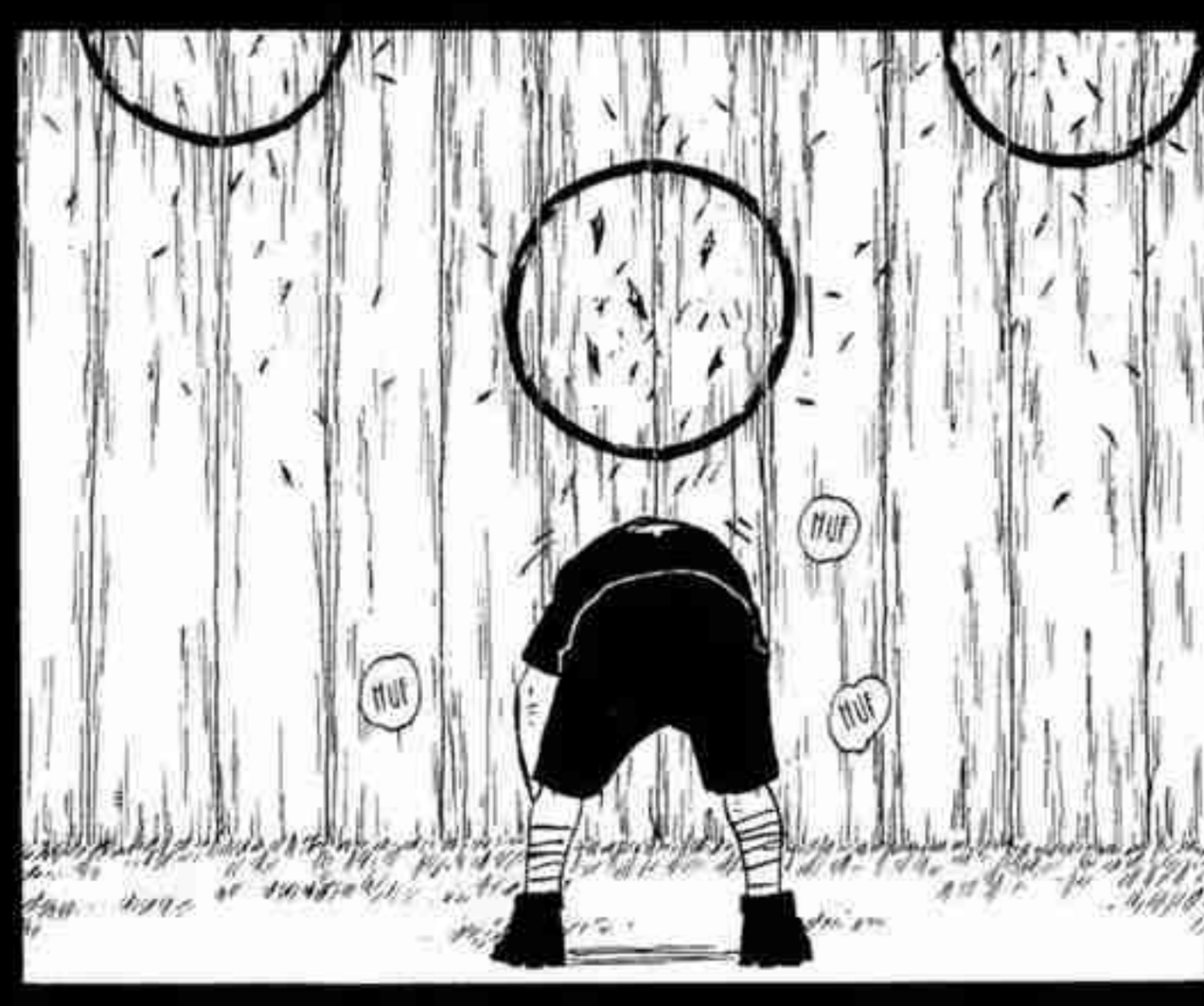
SO... IS HE A GENIUS, TOO?
UUUH ...
GUESS SO.

HEY... HE'S AN UCHIHA, ISN'T HE?
YEAH.

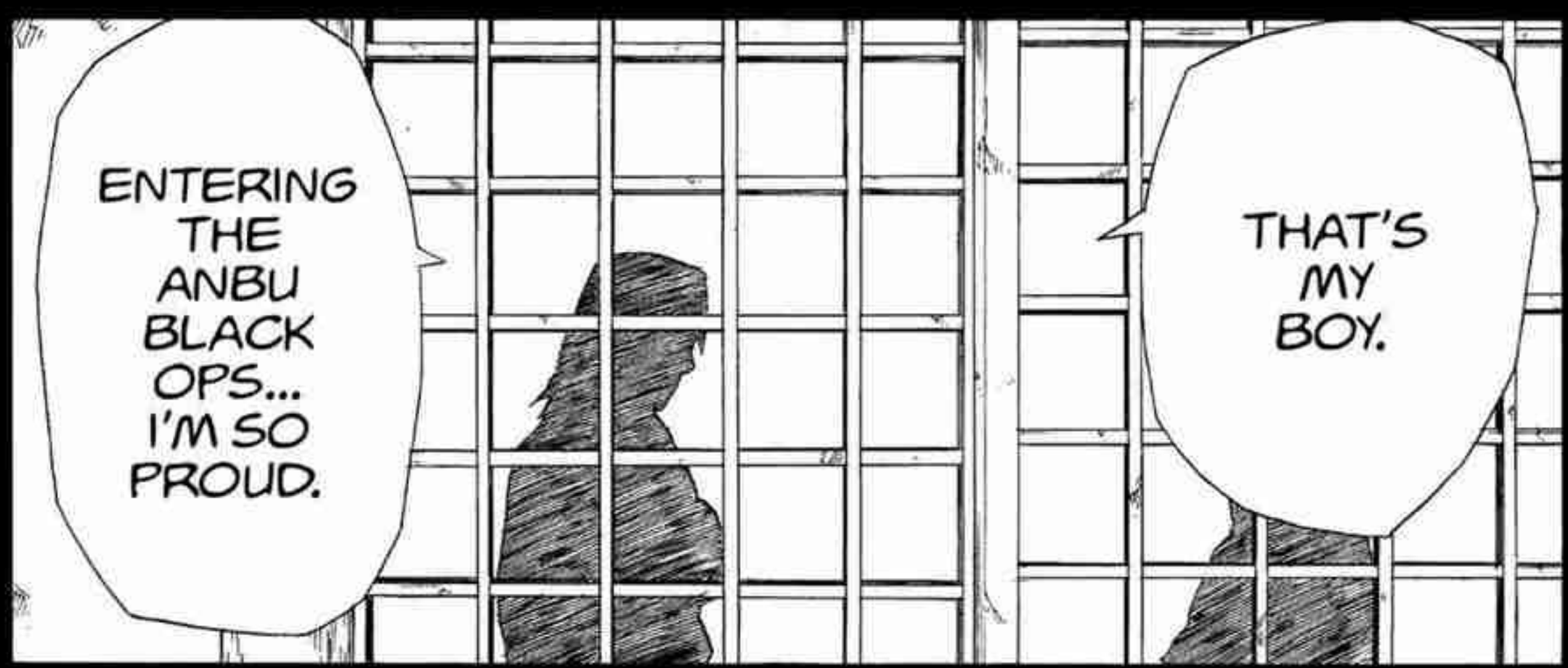
THUNK

WANT SOME, SHIKA-MARU?
I'M NOT USED TO THIS PLACE YET... FINALLY, IT'S BREAK TIME. WHAT A DRAG.
YOU KNOW, EVERY BREAK TIME BECOMES SNACK TIME FOR YOU...
TMP
TMP

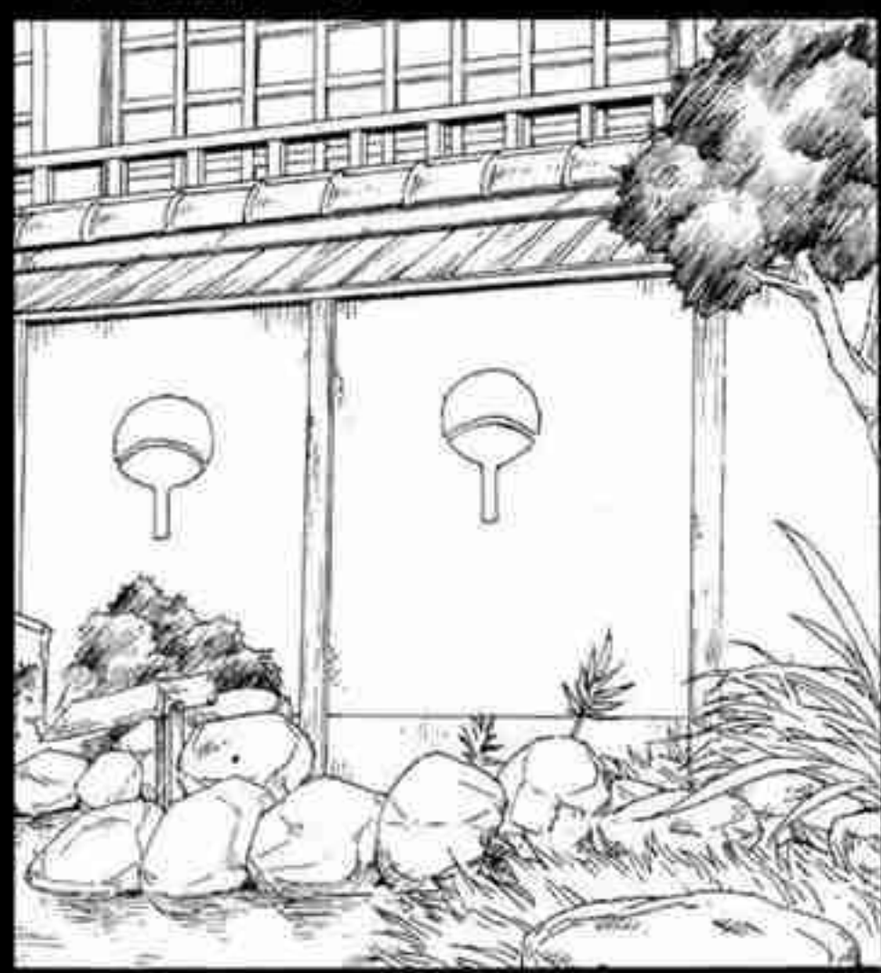
HUF
HUF
HUF


HUF
HUF
HUF

!
TMP TMP
HA HA HA ...


ENTERING THE ANBU BLACK OPS... I'M SO PROUD.
THAT'S MY BOY.

HUF
HUF
HUF
...



THUD

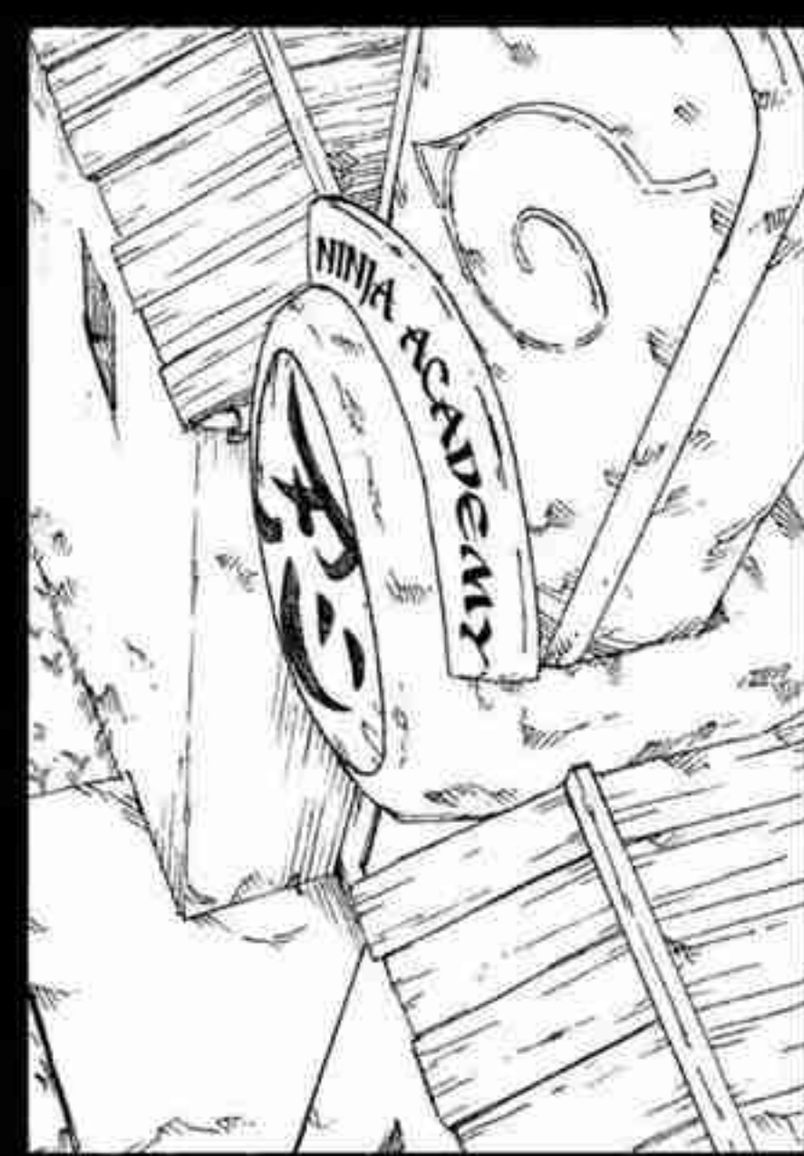
YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUSH SO HARD.
OUCH!

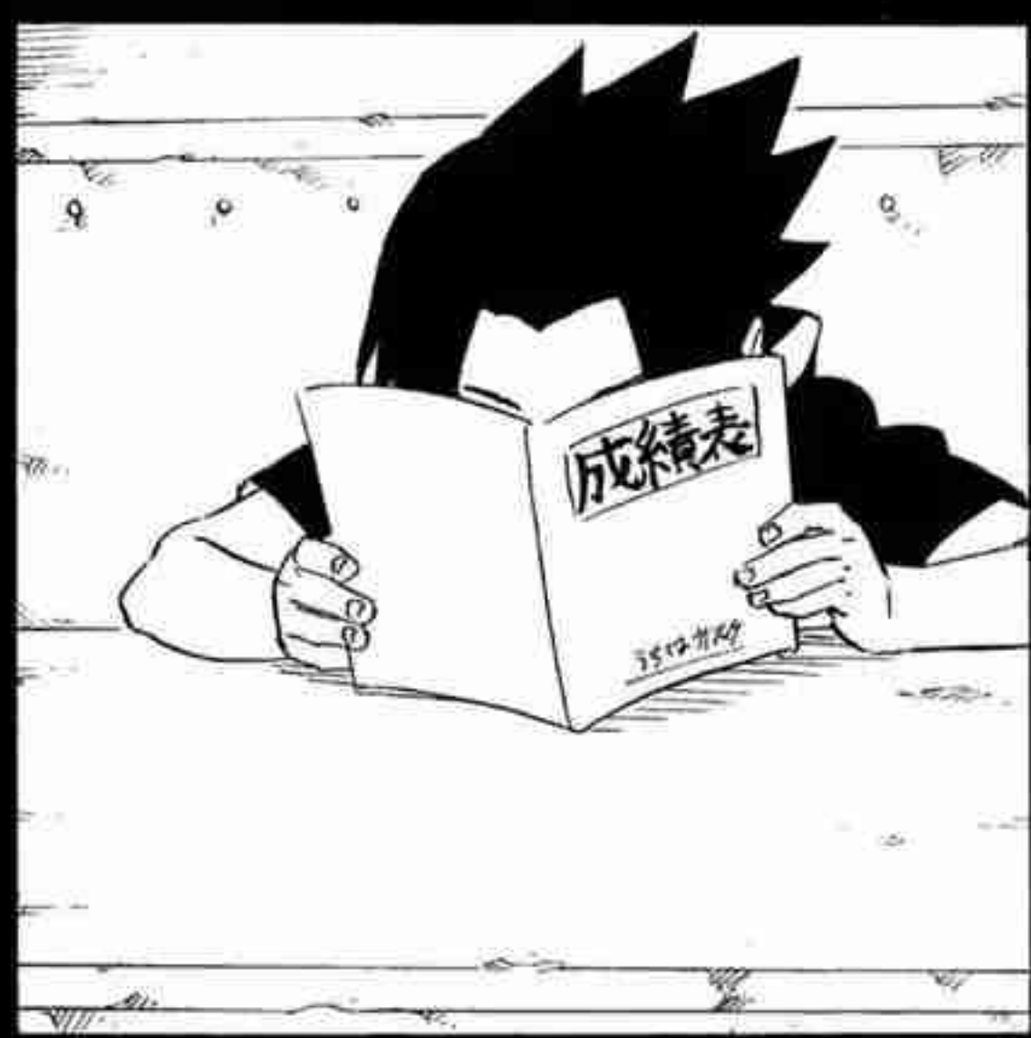
AT LEAST GIVE YOUR BODY A BREAK ON YOUR DAYS OFF.
OH, DEAR ...

THAT'S MY BOY.

TIMES HAVE CHANGED.
...AND HE'S A SPECIAL CASE.
ITACHI ...
...GRADUATED FROM THE ACADEMY IN ONE YEAR...

...

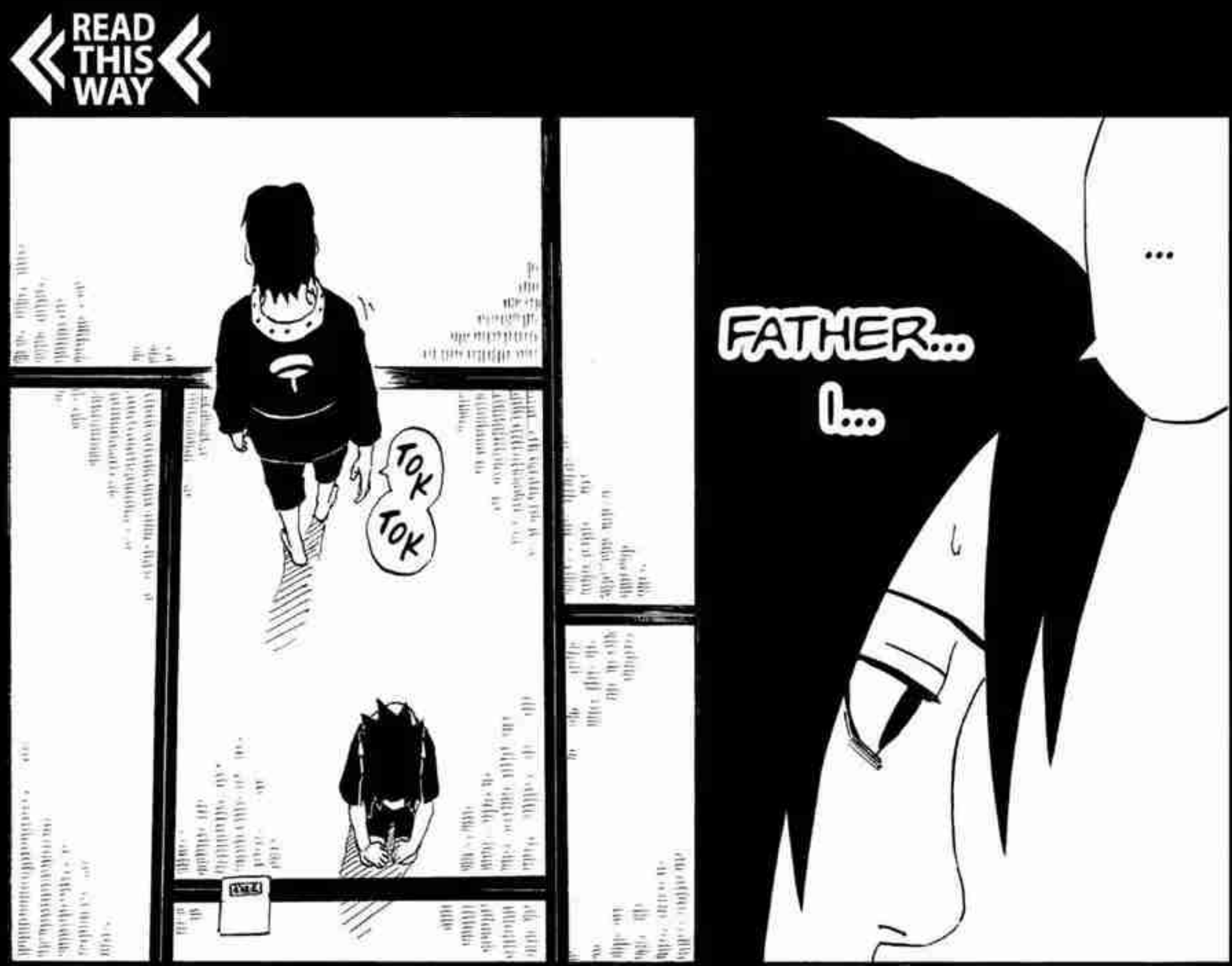




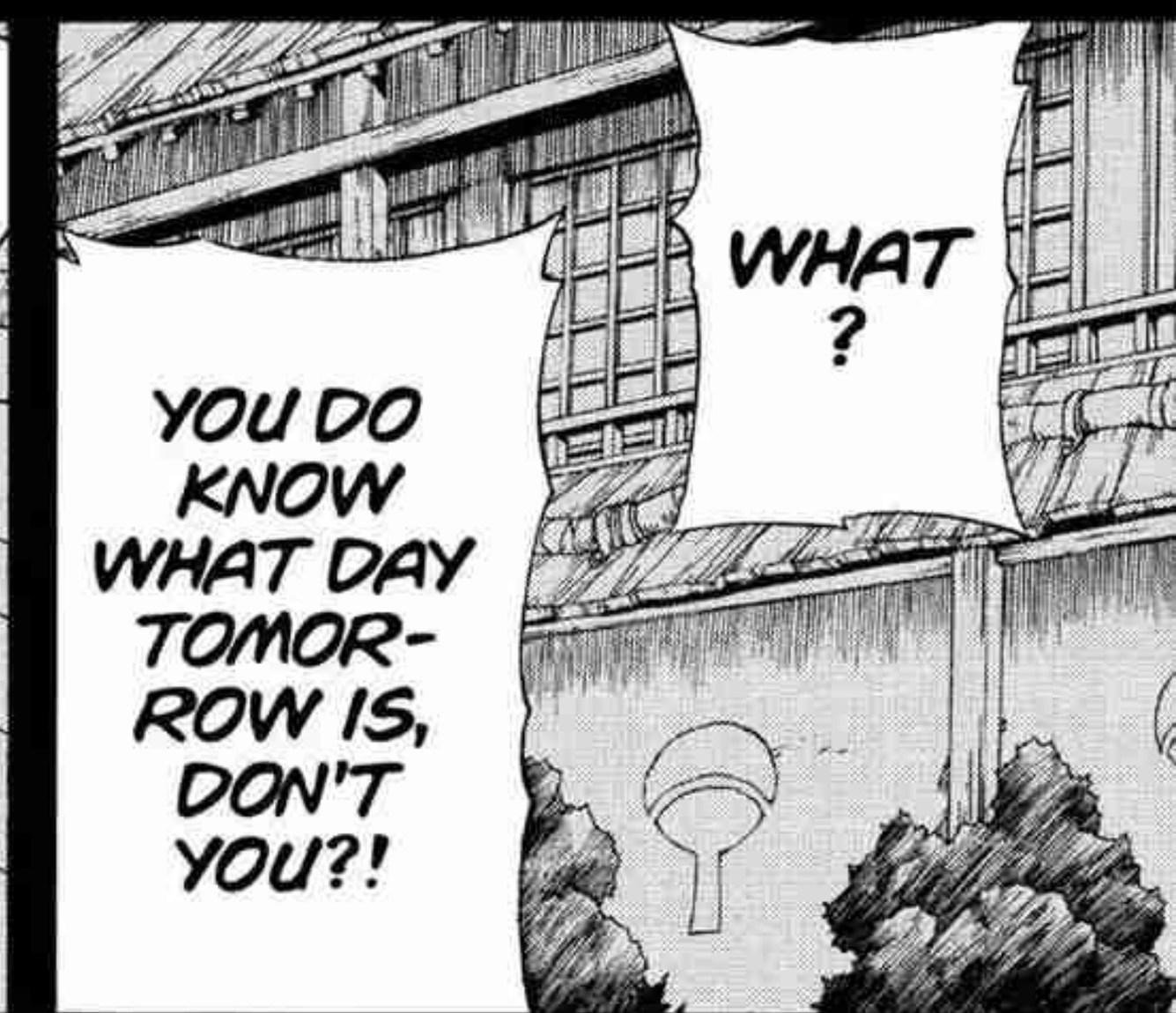
(REPORT CARD)

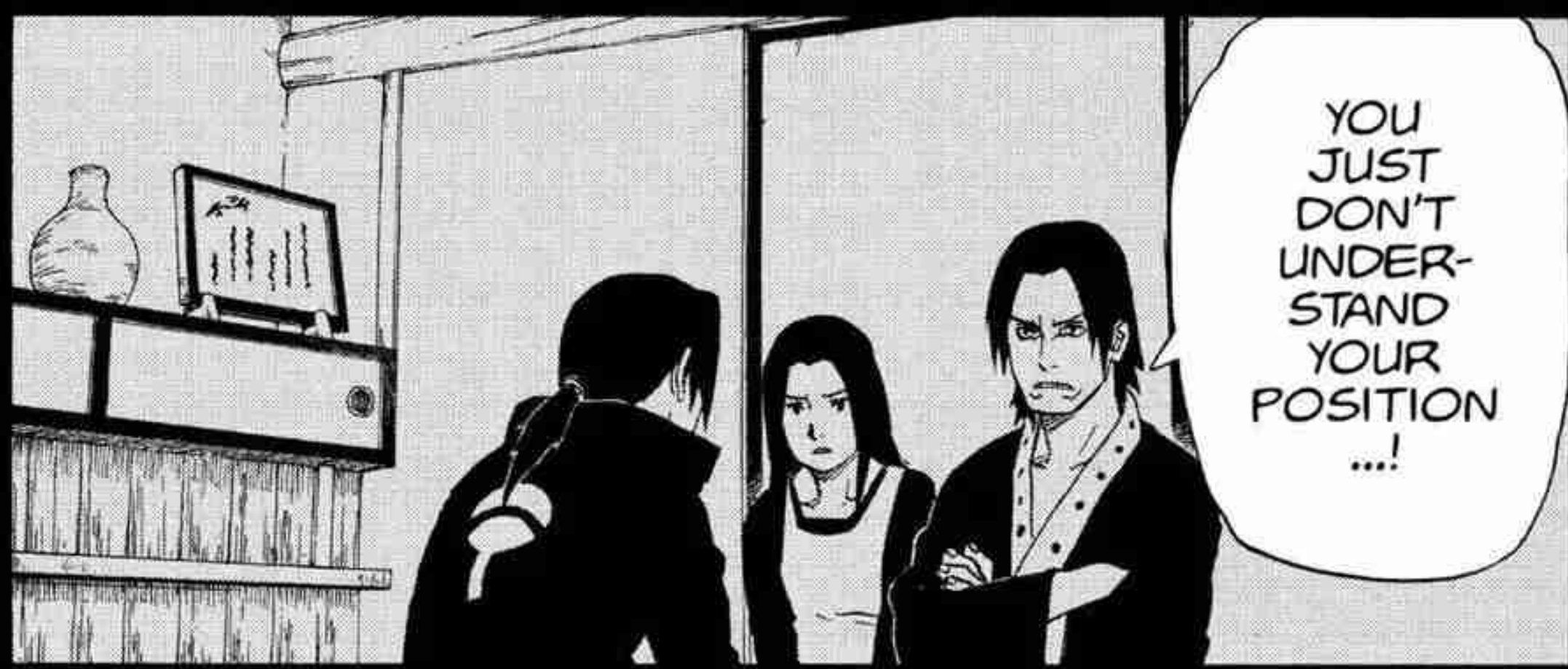
READ THIS WAY
成績表
Subjects
Class
Overall Status
Taijutsu
1st / 30 students
1st / 90 students
Ninjutsu
1st / 30 students
1st / 90 students
Individual
1st / 30 students
1st / 90 students
Team
1st / 9 teams
1st / 27 teams
Senjutsu
1st / 30 students
1st / 90 students
SHF

KEEP THIS UP, AND YOU'LL BE AMAZING, JUST LIKE YOUR BROTHER.


READ THIS WAY
TOK TOK
...
FATHER...
I...
...IS WHAT I WANTED YOU TO SAY...
THAT'S MY BOY...
TAK

!


WHAT ?
YOU DO KNOW WHAT DAY TOMOR-ROW IS, DON'T YOU?!


YOU JUST DON'T UNDER-STAND YOUR POSITION ...!

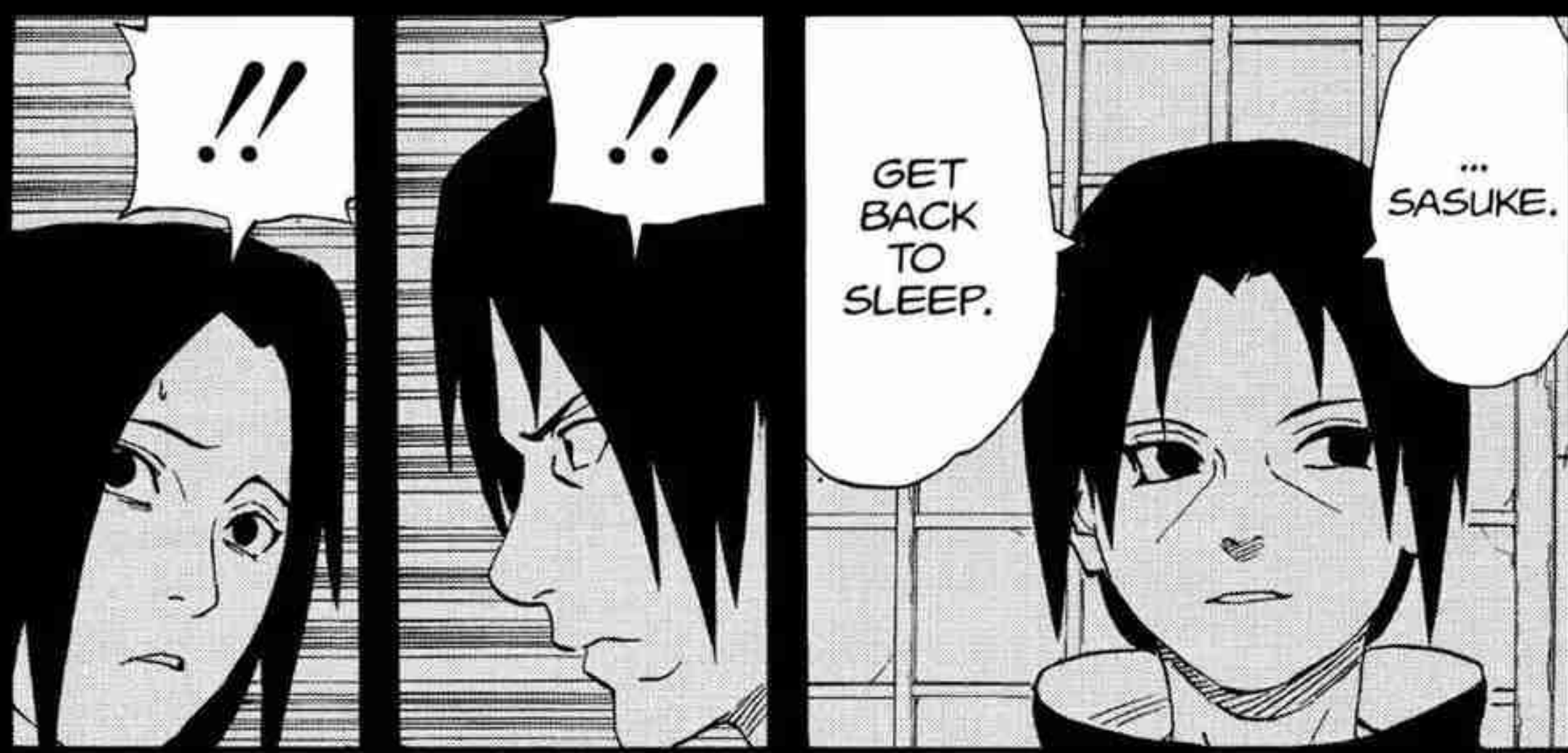
...WHAT MISSION ?!
MY MISSION BEGINS TOMOR-ROW.
SSH
WHAT ARE THEY DOING AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT, AND WITH THE LIGHTS OUT...?
?

READ THIS WAY
...
...
I CAN'T TELL YOU... IT'S COVERT.
...
YOU'RE THE PIPELINE BETWEEN THE CLAN AND THE VILLAGE NERVE CENTER...
ITACHI...
...
YEAH...
...DON'T YOU?
YOU UNDER-STAND THAT...

...

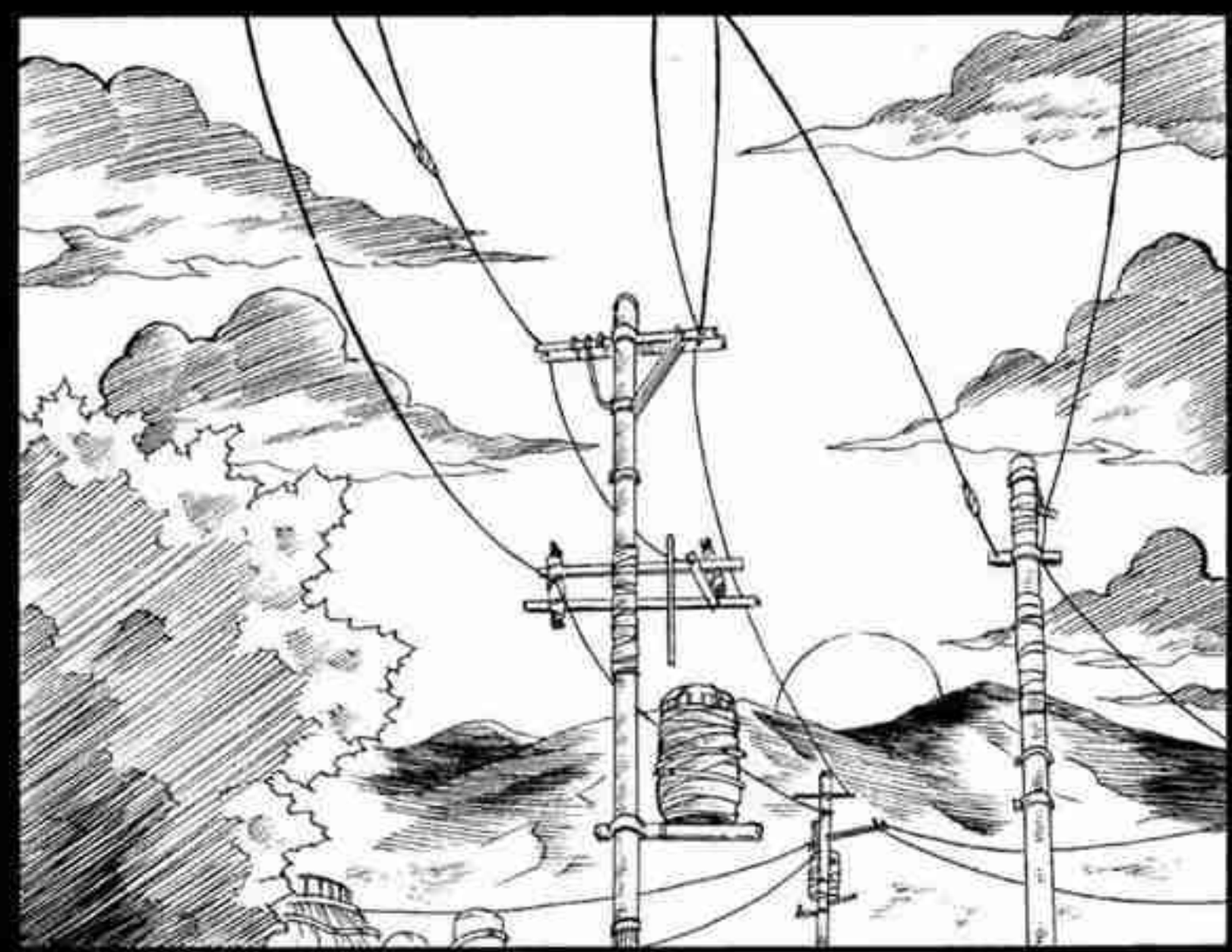
TAKE THAT TO HEART.

ATTEND TOMOR-ROW'S MEETING.



...
YES, FATHER.
...

成績表
うちは サスケ



YOU'RE UPSET WITH ME, SASUKE?

FATHER ONLY CARES ABOUT YOU...
...

...

...!

...

I... I DON'T THINK...

TO LIVE LIFE BEING HATED...

THAT'S FINE...

THAT'S ONE PATH FOR A SHINOBI.

HAVING POWER MEANS BEING ISOLATED, AND IT LEADS TO ARROGANCE.

NO MATTER HOW HIGH PEOPLE'S HOPES FOR YOU WERE.

HA HA...

IT'S TOUGH BEING THE BEST.

THE TRUTH IS... ABOUT MY BROTHER...

IT'S EXACTLY LIKE HE SAID...

I'LL ALWAYS BE THERE LIKE A WALL YOU NEED TO CLIMB OVER.

BUT... IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US.

...

KA-TUNGG

!

!

THAT'S WHAT BIG BROTHERS ARE FOR.

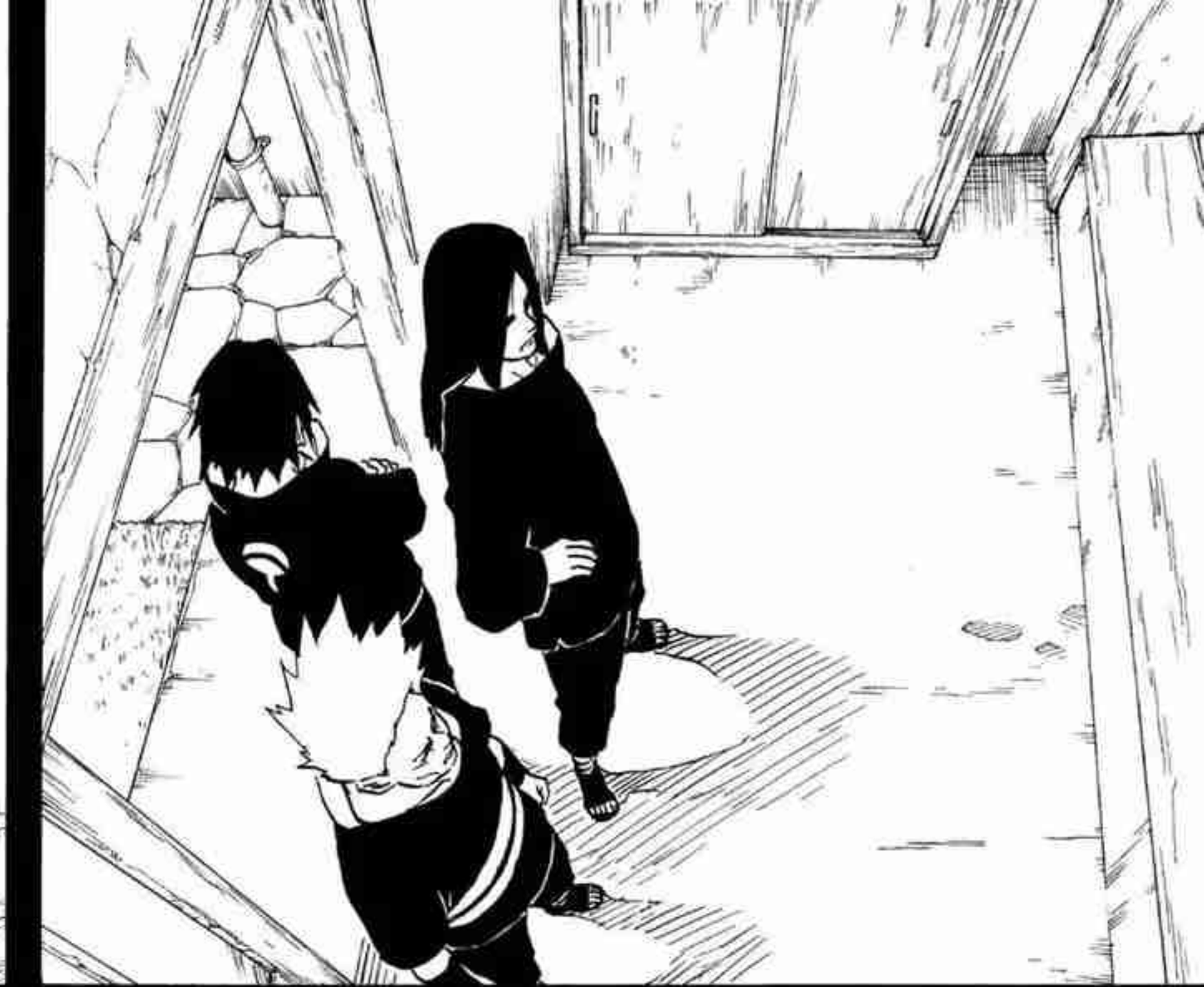
EVEN IF IT MEANS BEING HATED...

COME OUT! WE NEED TO TALK TO YOU!!

ITACHI! YOU THERE ?!

Number 222: Itachi Accused

SSH



ONLY TWO PEOPLE DIDN'T SHOW UP TO YESTERDAY'S MEETING...

...WHAT IS IT?
WHAT BRINGS YOU ALL HERE?

WHERE WERE YOU?

READ THIS WAY
SO, IT'S TRUE... ITACHI DIDN'T ATTEND...
...
...
WE CAN'T MAKE EXCEPTIONS.
YOUR FATHER SAID SO TOO...
...AND HE'S TRYING TO DEFEND YOU, BUT...
SINCE JOINING THE ANBU...
YOU'VE PULLED US THROUGH MANY SITUATIONS... WE UNDERSTAND THAT.
...
WE DO HAVE A FEW MORE QUESTIONS ...
... ALMOST.
NOW, ARE WE DONE HERE?
...I UNDER-STAND.
I'LL BE MORE CAREFUL.

IT'S ABOUT SHISUI...

HE ALSO MISSED THE MEETING ...

READ THIS WAY
...WERE LIKE BROTHERS.
...YEAH, WELL... I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM LATELY...
...IT'S A TRAGEDY.
...
...WE ARE THE POLICE, ITACHI...
...WE'VE DECIDED TO PUT OUR FULL EFFORT INTO THE INVESTI-GATION.
... INVESTI-GATION ?!
SHFF SHFF

THIS IS SHISUI'S FINAL NOTE.

A HAND-WRITING ANALYSIS WAS CONDUCTED.

THERE'S NO DOUBT HE WROTE IT.

...IF THERE'S NO INDICATION OF MURDER ...

...WHAT'S THE INVESTI-GATION FOR...?

FOR A SHARINGAN USER...

...COPYING HANDWRITING IS EASY.

...?!

...

SHE

THE CONTENT OF THE SUICIDE NOTE IS ALL HERE...

...ON THIS TINY PIECE OF PAPER.

I can't run counter to the Path any longer.

I'm tired of these missions. At this rate, there's no future for Uchiha. Or for me...

HE WOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN UP HIS LIFE OR HIS CLAN THIS EASILY.

HE WAS ALWAYS THE FIRST TO TAKE ON ANY MISSION FOR THE SAKE OF THE CLAN.

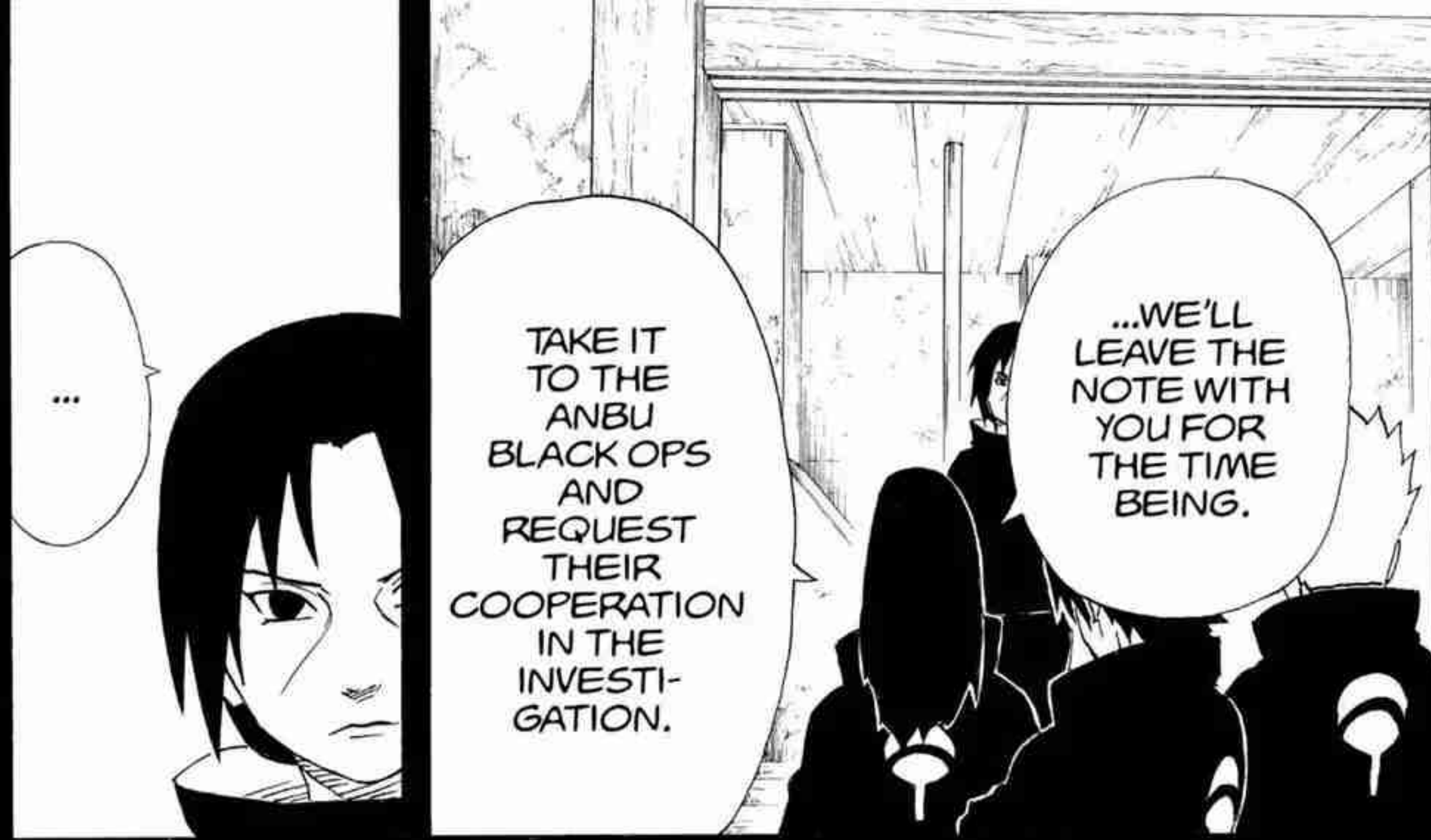
HE WAS ONE OF THE MOST TALENTED OF THE CLAN, AND THE BEST EVER AT TELEPORTATION.

...

YOU SHOULDN'T JUDGE PEOPLE...

...BY APPEARANCES OR PRECONCEPTIONS.

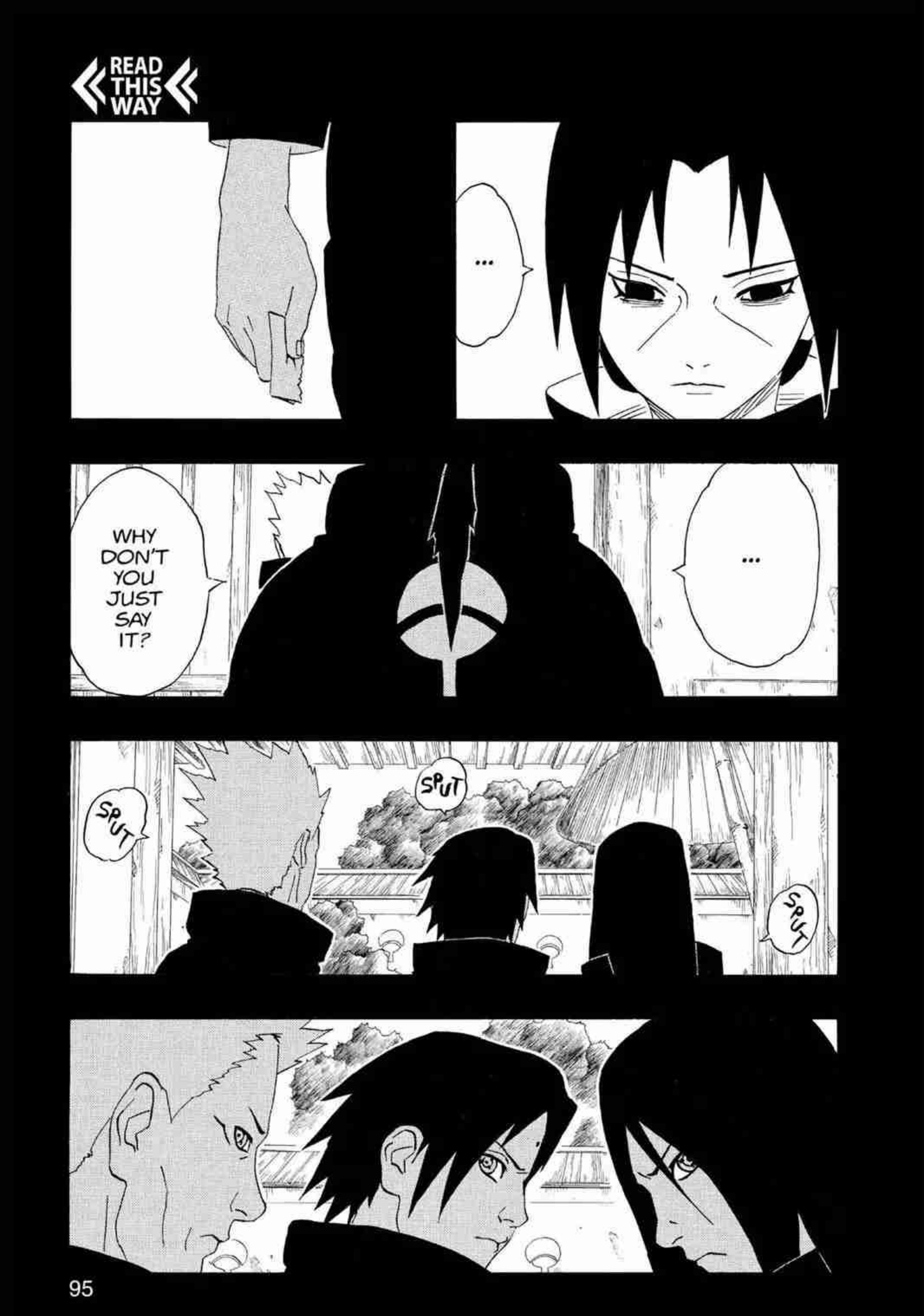
...


...
TAKE IT TO THE ANBU BLACK OPS AND REQUEST THEIR COOPERATION IN THE INVESTI-GATION.
...WE'LL LEAVE THE NOTE WITH YOU FOR THE TIME BEING.

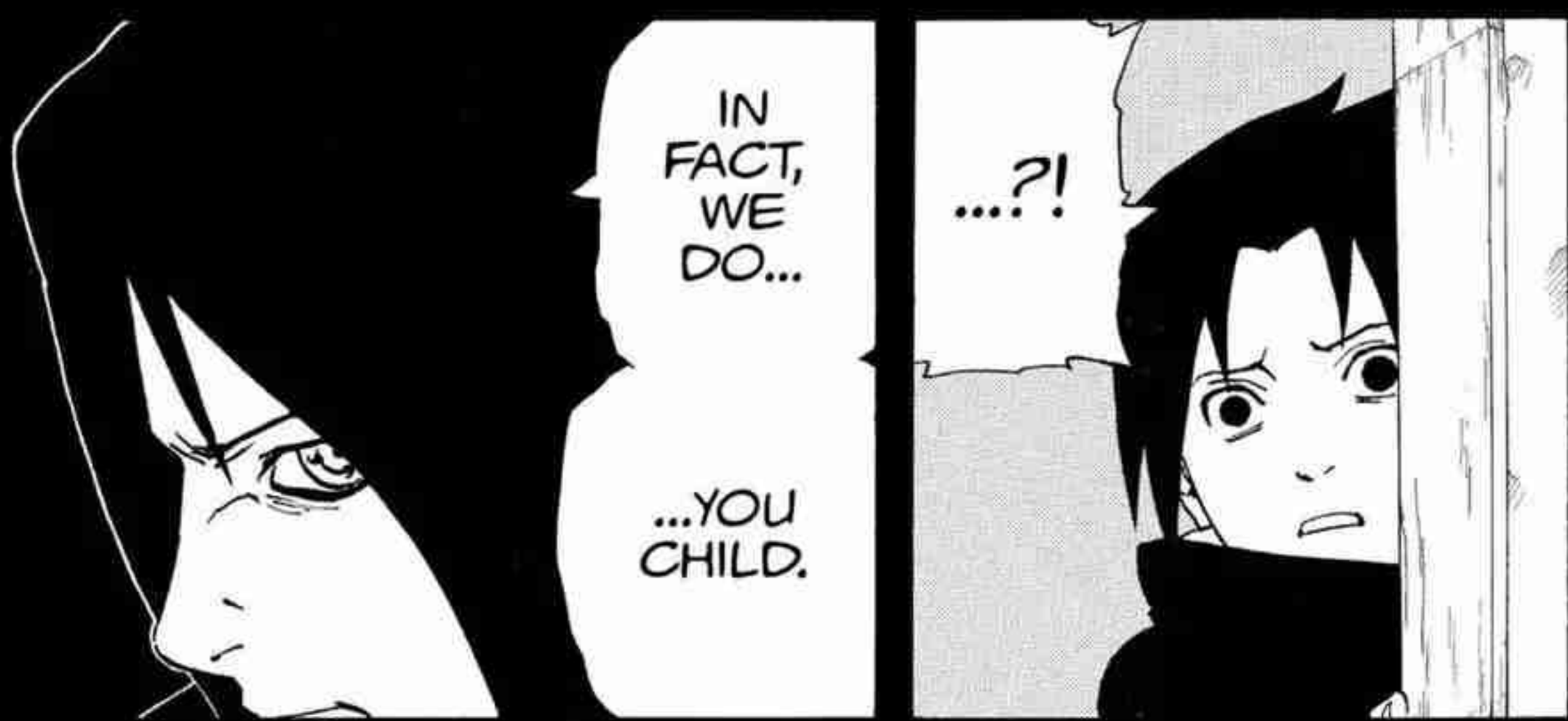
SHF
SHF

UNDER-STOOD ...

WE HAVE ALTERNATE INFORMATION CHANNELS INTO THE ANBU BLACK OPS.
IF YOU DESTROY THE NOTE, WE'LL KNOW.
CLOMP
CLOMP
HOPEFULLY WE'LL GET SOME SORT OF LEAD...


READ THIS WAY
...
...
WHY DON'T YOU JUST SAY IT?
SPUT
SPUT
SPUT

YOU THINK I DID THIS?



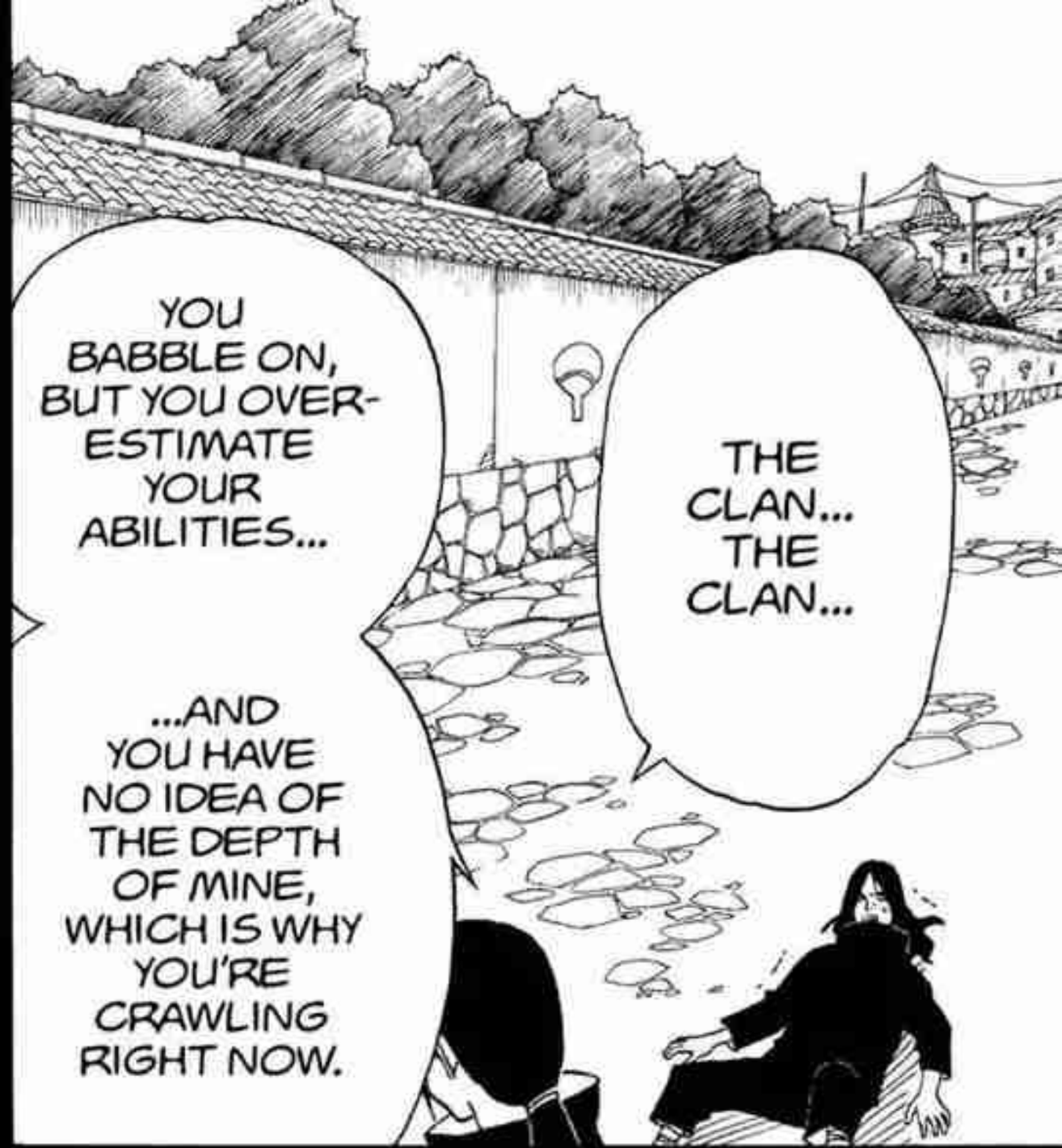
WAP WAP WAP

UGH...

...IF YOU THINK I HAVE PATIENCE FOR YOU...
YOU MISJUDGE ME COM-PLETELY ...
FUMP

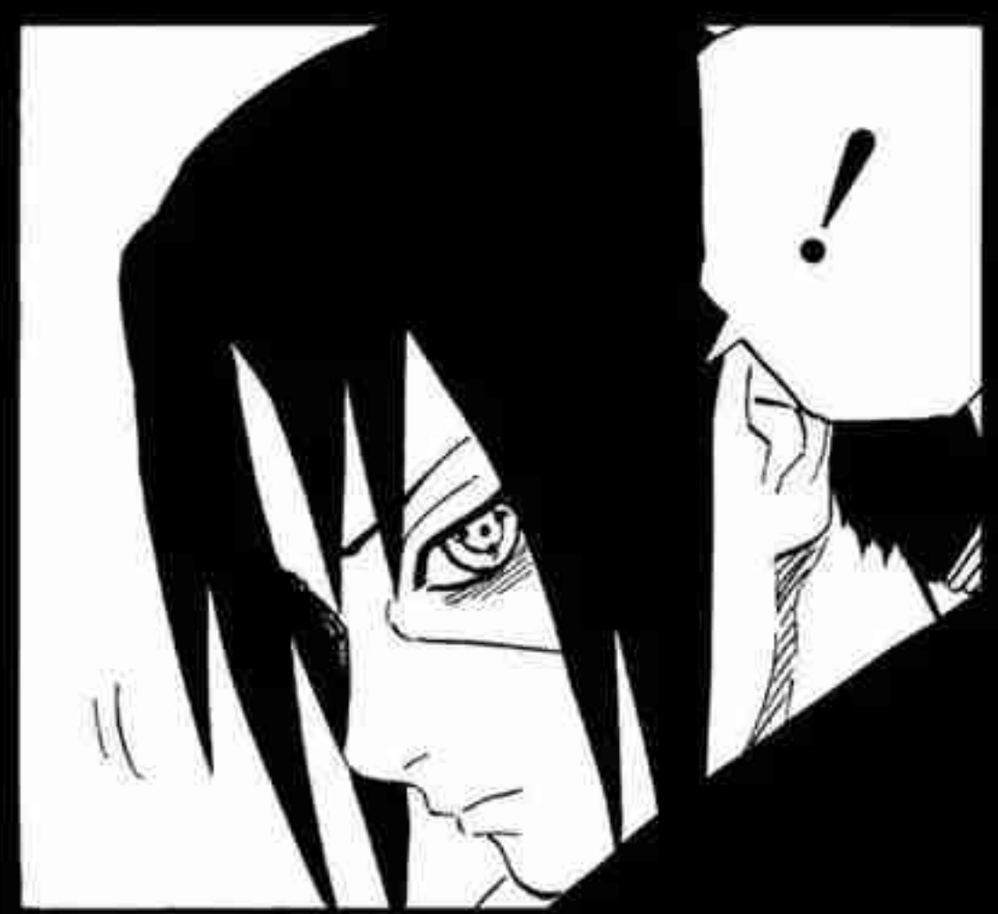
...BY APPEAR-ANCES OR PRECON-CEPTIONS.
LIKE I SAID. DON'T JUDGE PEOPLE...

...LIKE THIS...
...I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM...


YOU BABBLE ON, BUT YOU OVER-ESTIMATE YOUR ABILITIES...
...AND YOU HAVE NO IDEA OF THE DEPTH OF MINE, WHICH IS WHY YOU'RE CRAWLING RIGHT NOW.
THE CLAN... THE CLAN...

AND YOU FEAR WHAT YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND...
YOU CLING TO YOUR ORGANIZATION, TO YOUR CLAN, AND TO YOUR NAME...
PURE IDIOCY !!
BUT YOU ARE NARCISSISTIC AND ARROGANT...

IT'S BEEN SIX MONTHS SINCE YOU ENTERED ANBU... WHAT YOU'VE SAID AND DONE SINCE THEN IS TOO STRANGE TO OVERLOOK.
...SHISUI HAD BEEN WATCHING YOU RECENTLY...
WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU THINKING...?


!

ITACHI, STOP IT!!

ITACHI... I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOUR BEHAVIOR OF LATE.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
THAT'S ENOUGH ...

THEN WHY DIDN'T YOU SHOW UP LAST NIGHT?

I'M BUSY WITH WORK... THAT'S ALL.
WHY...?

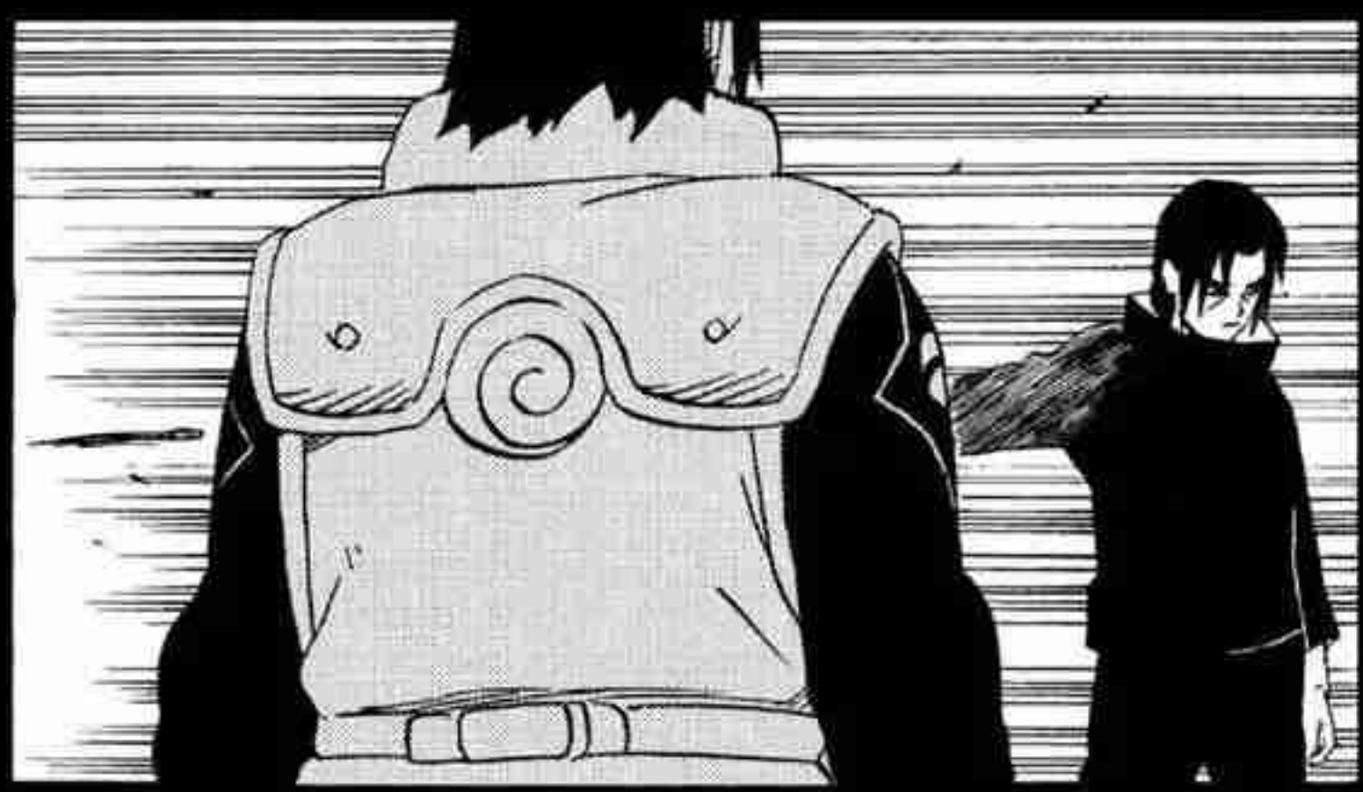
...!

...? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ...?

...I NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THE NEXT STATE.

...

SHHF



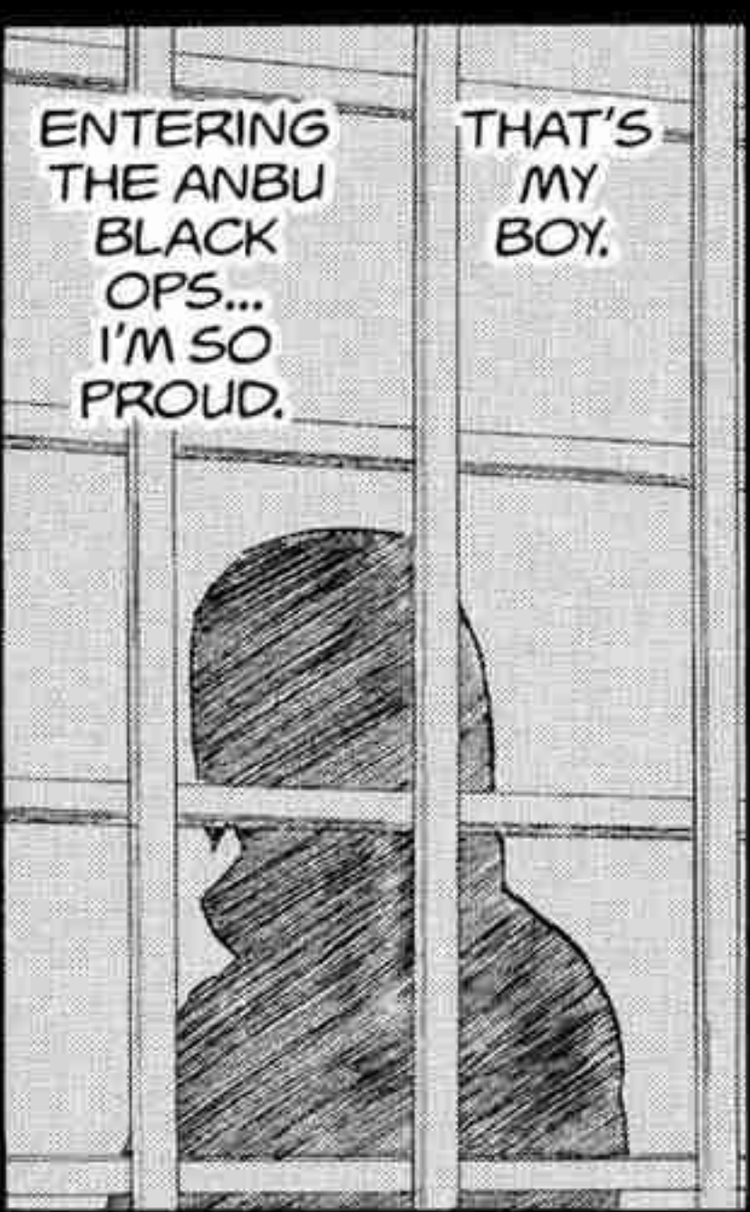
READ
THIS
WAY

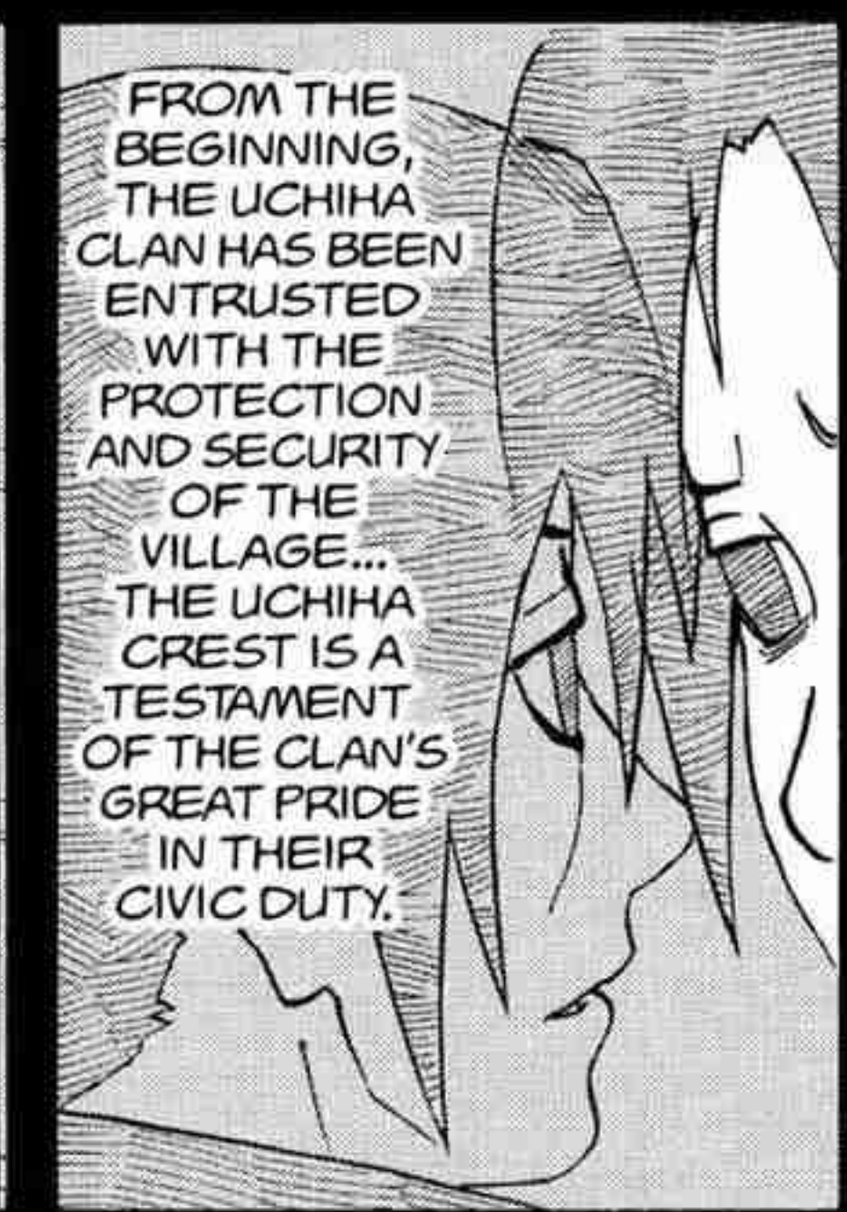
...

...

...RE-PRESSED BY THIS PATHETIC CLAN.

MY ABILITY'S BEEN...


ENTERING THE ANBU BLACK OPS... I'M SO PROUD.
THAT'S MY BOY.


FROM THE BEGINNING, THE UCHIHA CLAN HAS BEEN ENTRUSTED WITH THE PROTECTION AND SECURITY OF THE VILLAGE... THE UCHIHA CREST IS A TESTAMENT OF THE CLAN'S GREAT PRIDE IN THEIR CIVIC DUTY.

...PREMONITION AND IMAGINATION. YOU CAN'T ACHIEVE REAL CHANGE AS LONG AS YOU'RE BOUND BY REGULATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS.

...YOU LOSE SIGHT OF WHAT'S REALLY IMPORTANT...

OBSESSING OVER WORTHLESS THINGS LIKE THE *CLAN*...

NO MATTER HOW HIGH PEOPLE'S HOPES FOR YOU WERE.

IT'S TOUGH (BEING THE BEST. HAVING POWER MEANS) BEING ISOLATED, AND IT LEADS TO ARRO-GANCE.

WHAT INSO-LENCE ...!!

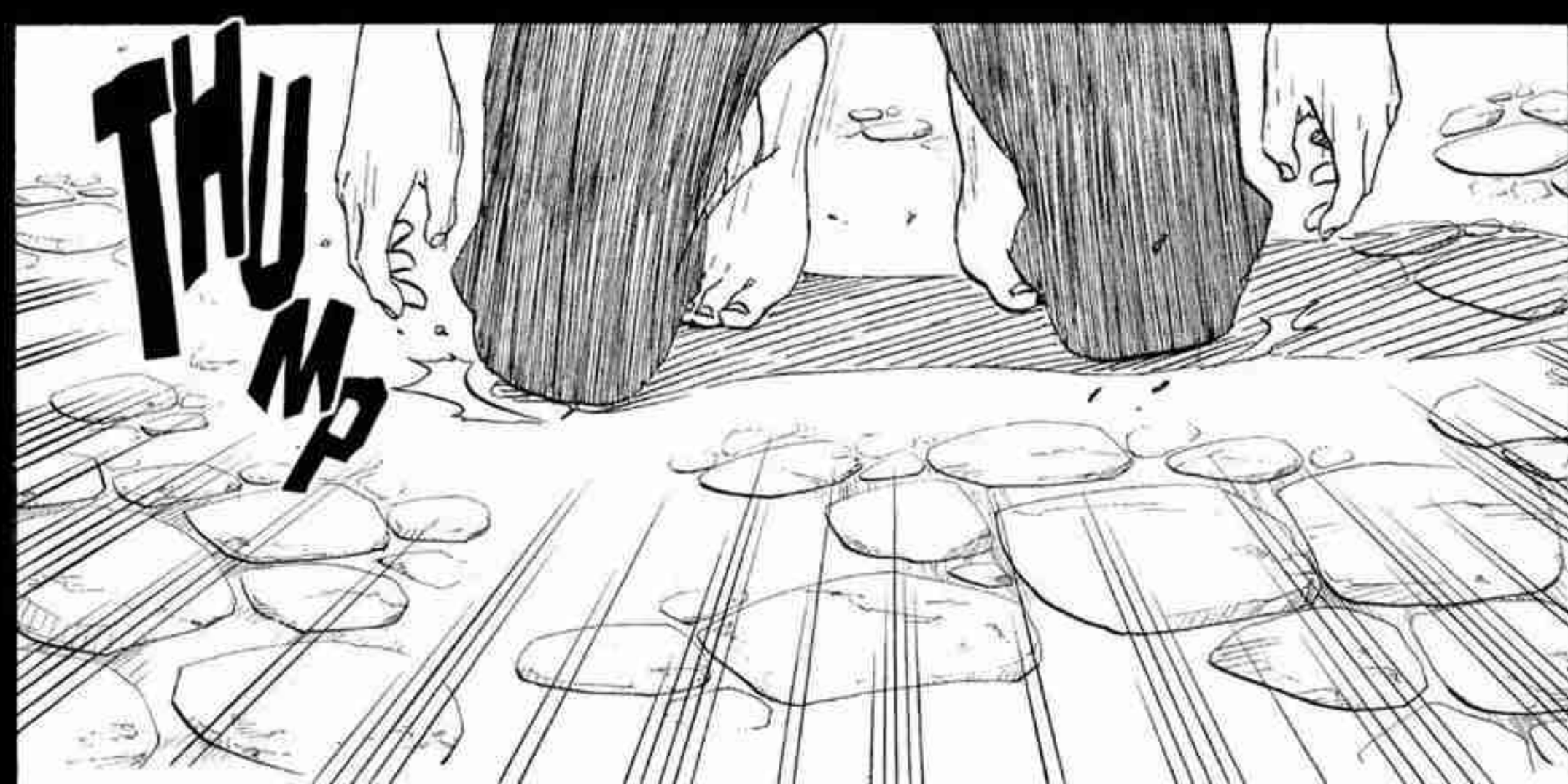
IF YOU CONTINUE TO SPEAK THIS NONSENSE, YOU'RE GOING TO PRISON.

SSH

ENOUGH!

WH... WHY... BIG BROTHER ...?

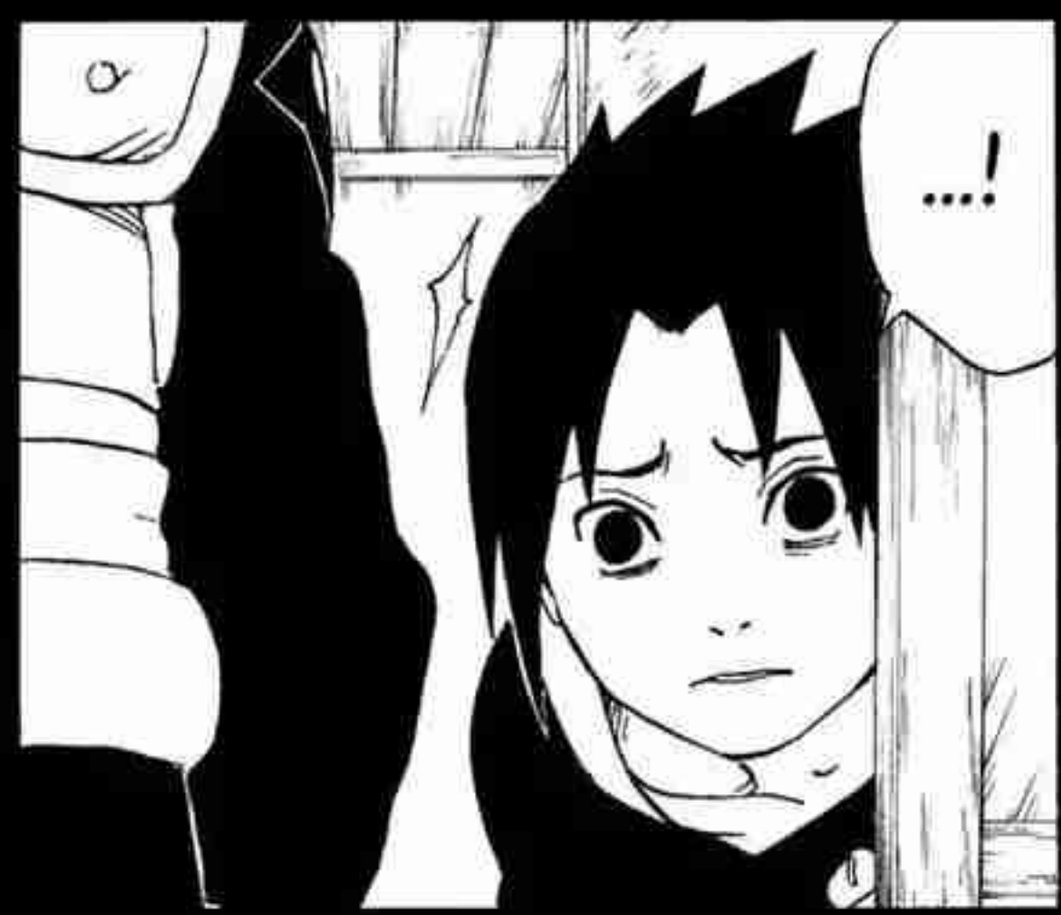
WELL, WHAT'RE YOU GOING TO DO?!



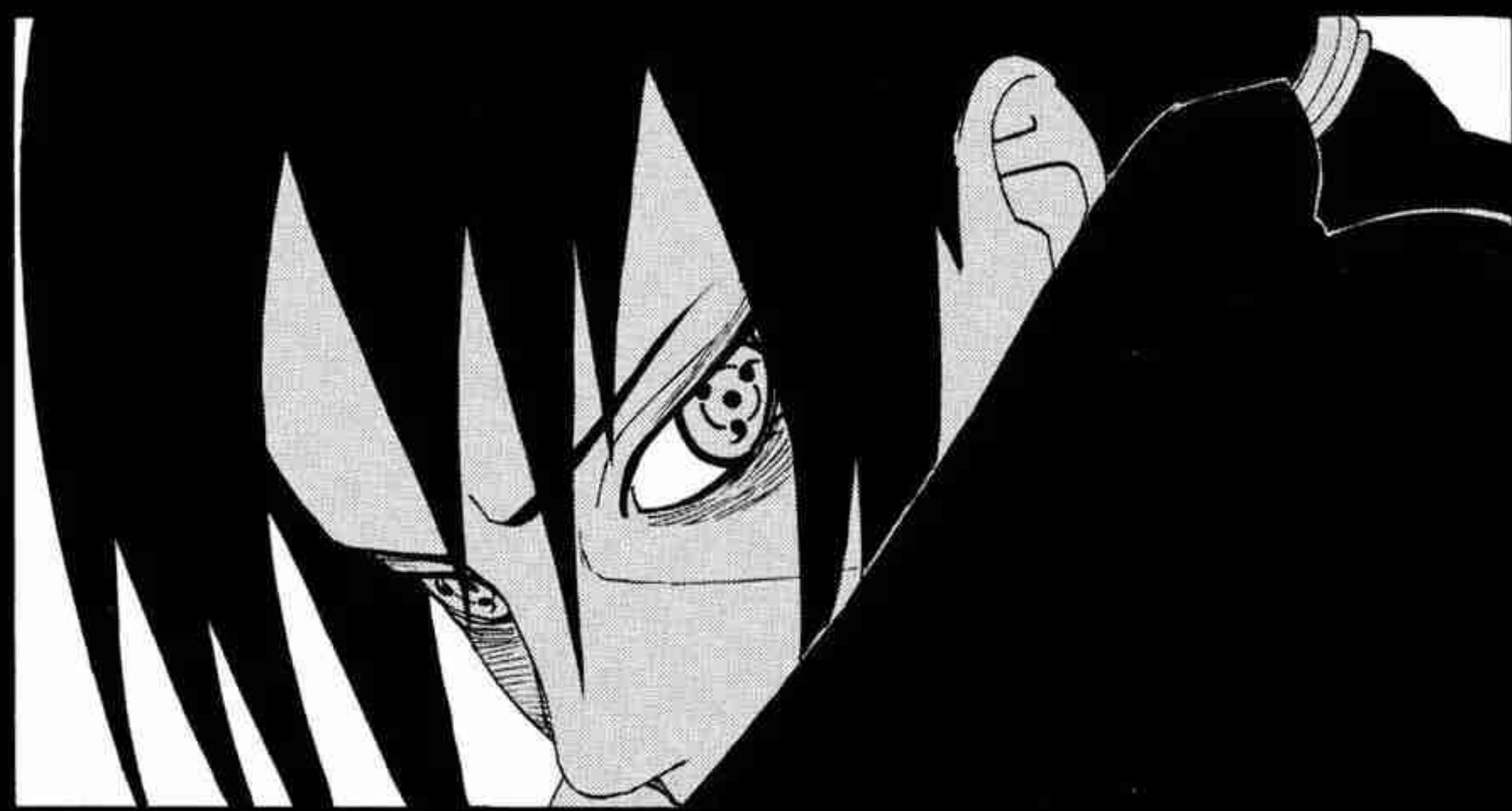
!!
...MY INAPPRO-PRIATE REMARKS ... I'M VERY SORRY.
...I DID NOT KILL SHISUI...
BUT I APOLO-GIZE FOR...
ANBU IS UNDER LORD HOKAGE'S DIRECT CONTROL... EVEN WE CAN'T ARREST HIM WITHOUT A WARRANT.
... CAPTAIN !!
AS FOR MY SON... I'LL TAKE RESPON-SIBILITY FOR HIM.
...
...LATELY...
...THE HEAVY MISSION LOAD FOR THE ANBU APPEARS TO HAVE TIRED HIM OUT...

UNDER-STOOD.
...

PLEASE ...

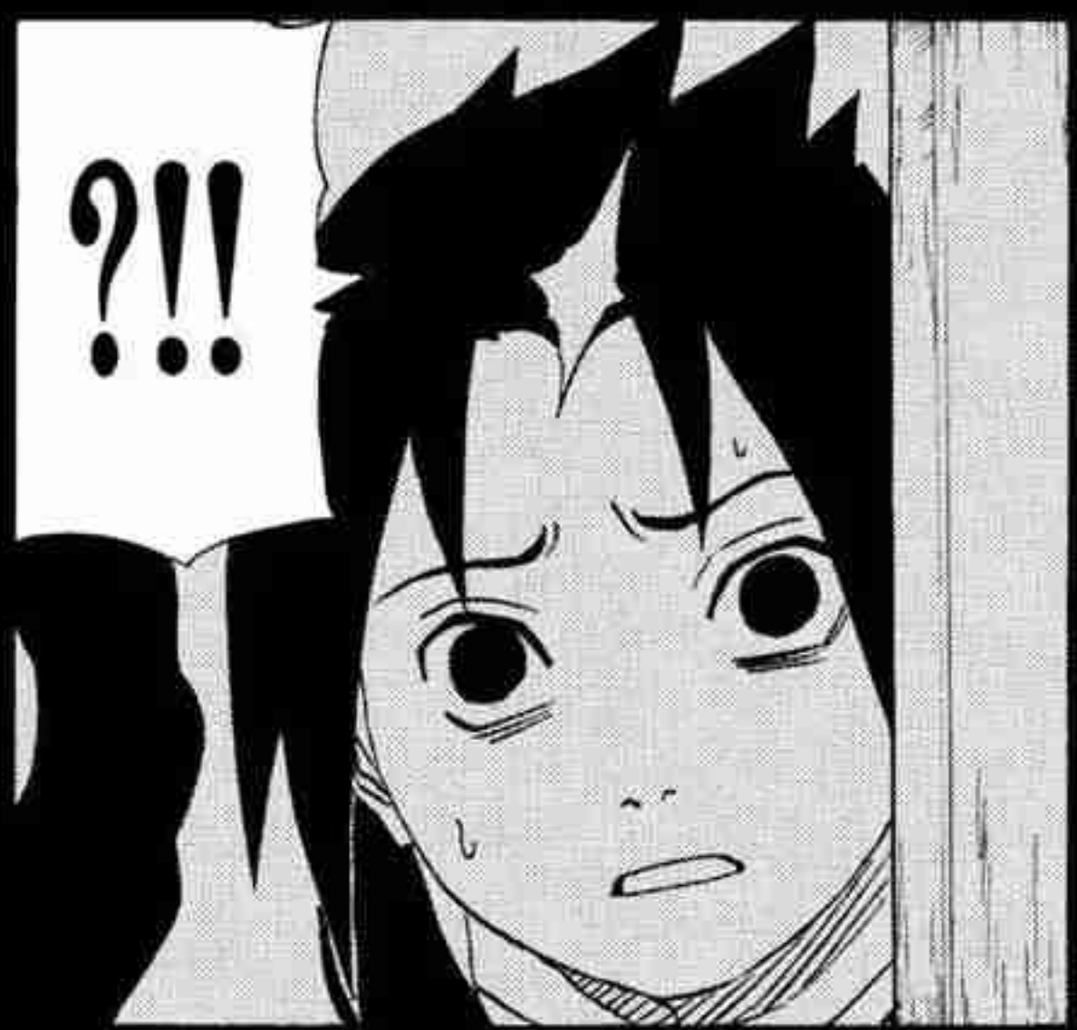

...!

TMP
TMP
ITACHI... INSIDE.



NARUTO
TM

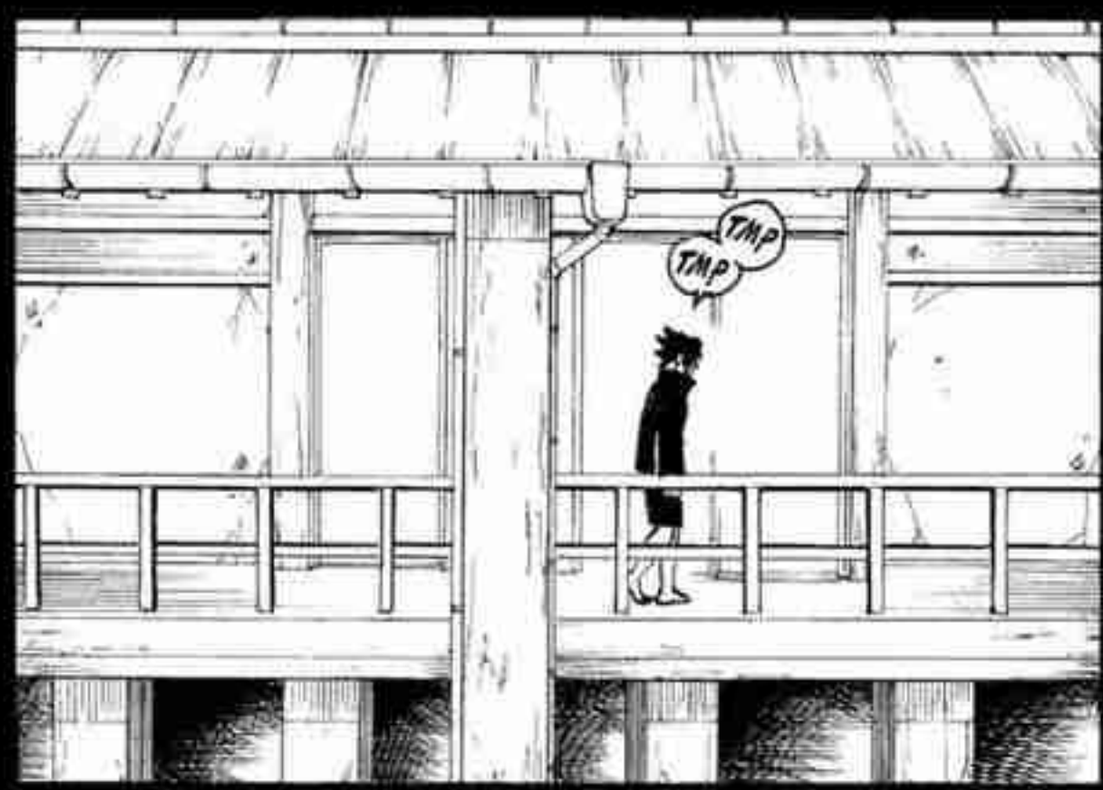
Number 223:
Father and Son


!!!

WHAT WAS THAT...? MY BROTHER'S EYES...

...NOT A NORMAL SHARINGAN...

THAT WAS...



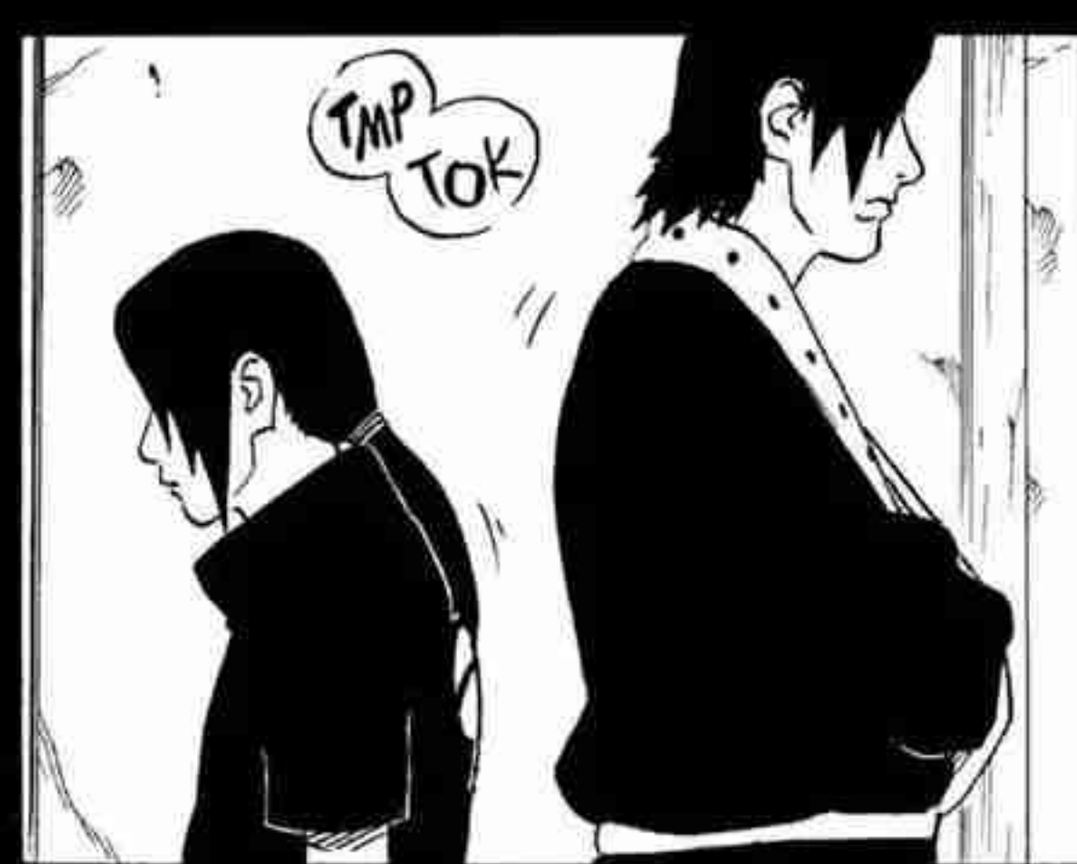
TMP
TMP

TMP
TMP

TMP
TMP
TOK
TOK

TMP
TMP

...

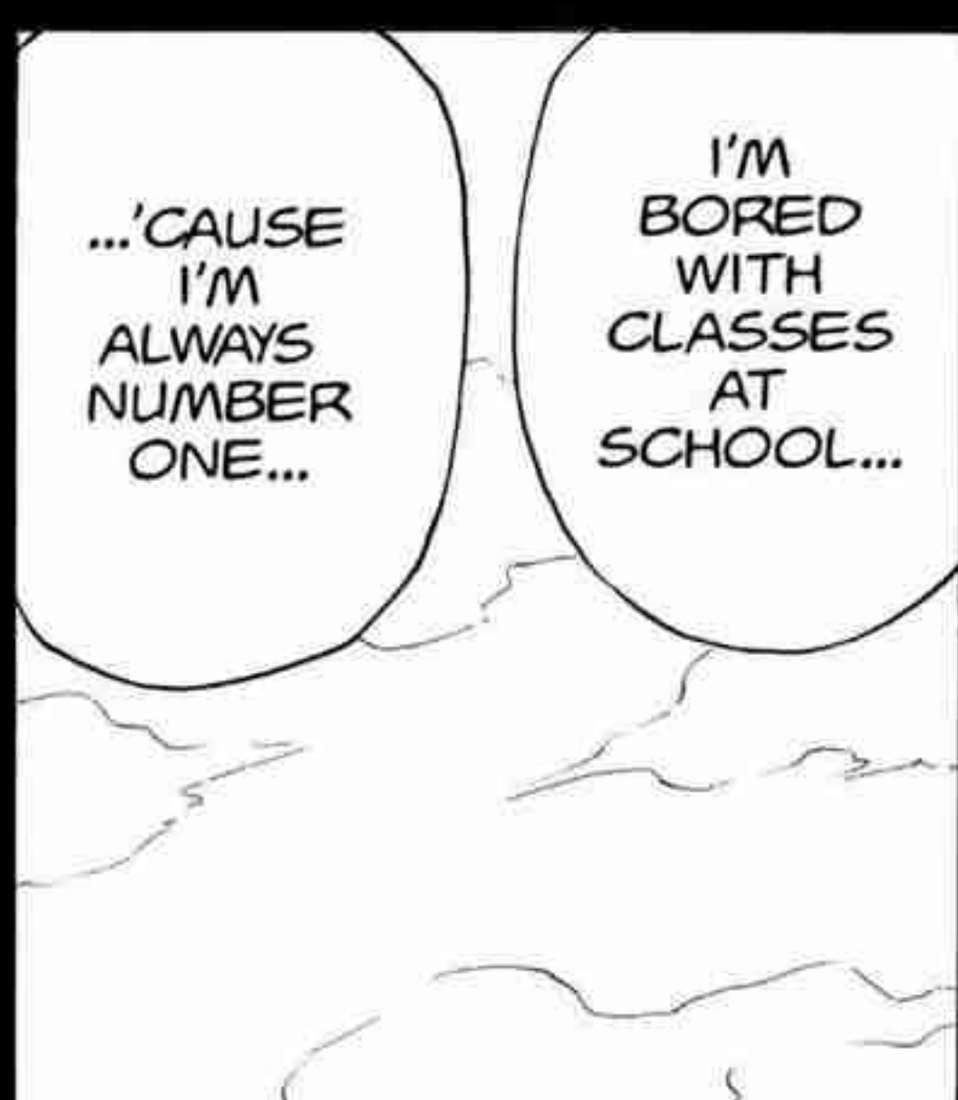

TMP
TOK

FATHER ...
GOOD MORN-ING...

GLANCE
!

HOW'S SCHOOL GOING LATELY?
OH...
GOOD MORN-ING.

...


...'CAUSE I'M ALWAYS NUMBER ONE...
I'M BORED WITH CLASSES AT SCHOOL...

FOO OOO M

VMMM

!

BUILD UP CHAKRA, HOLD IT SOMEWHERE BETWEEN YOUR MOUTH AND CHEST...

...AND THEN BLAST IT OUT IN A SINGLE BREATH.

THE SIGN IS AS I JUST TAUGHT YOU.

FIRE STYLE! GÔKAKYÛ NO JUTSU!! FIREBALL TECHNIQUE!!

THIS IS BASIC UCHIHA NINJUTSU.

WOW... AMAZING!

FWP
GOT IT!!

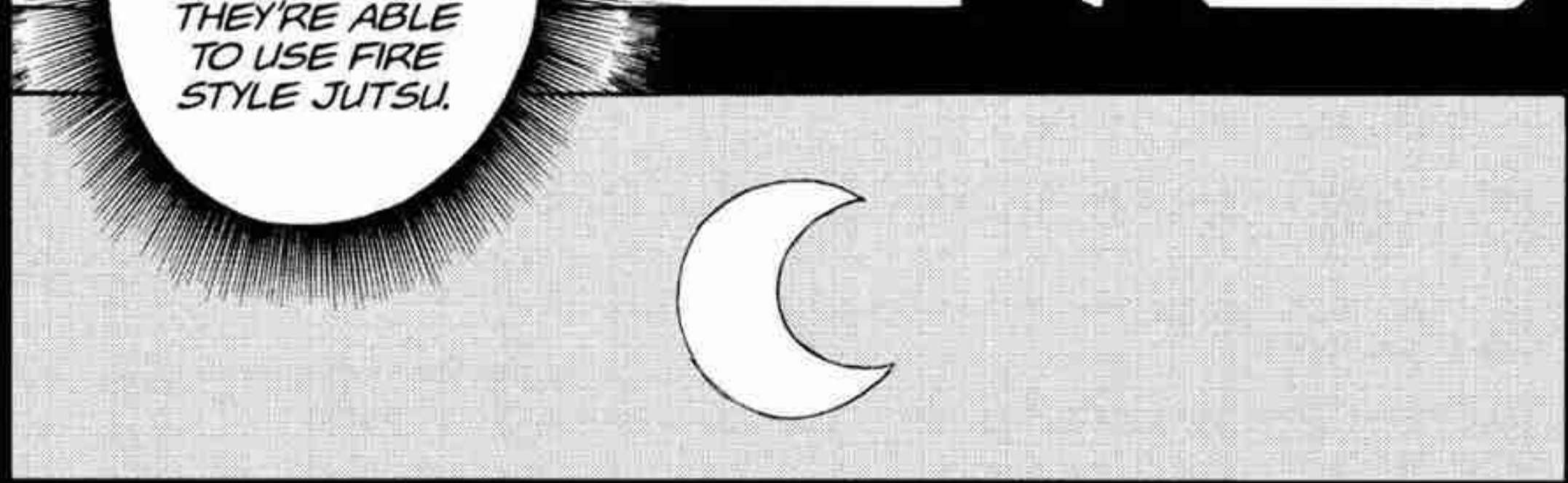
SHUP
SHUP
I CAN'T LET HIM DOWN!!
SHUP
SHUP
FINALLY ...I'M GAINING HIS RECOGNITION!
SHUP
SHUP
FATHER IS GIVING ME DIRECT JUTSU INSTRUCTION.

I CAN DO IT...!
HMMP
...

POFF

TOK
TOK
UCHIHA ARE CONSIDERED FULL-FLEDGED CLAN MEMBERS ONLY AFTER THEY'RE ABLE TO USE FIRE STYLE JUTSU.

TOK
TOK
THIS MAY'VE BEEN TOO SOON FOR YOU.



HUF
HUF

...THE WILL OF THOSE WITH FANS WHO MANIPU-LATE FIRE.
HUF
HUF
HUF
THE UCHIHA CREST REPRE-SENTS ...
HUF
SHUUU
TINGLE
TINGLE
HUF

...

!
FATHER.

TEACHING IT AGAIN ONLY A WEEK LATER WILL BRING THE SAME RESULT.
IT WAS TOO EARLY TO TEACH YOU THAT.

PLEASE CHECK MY JUTSU AGAIN.

?

NO, IT WON'T...

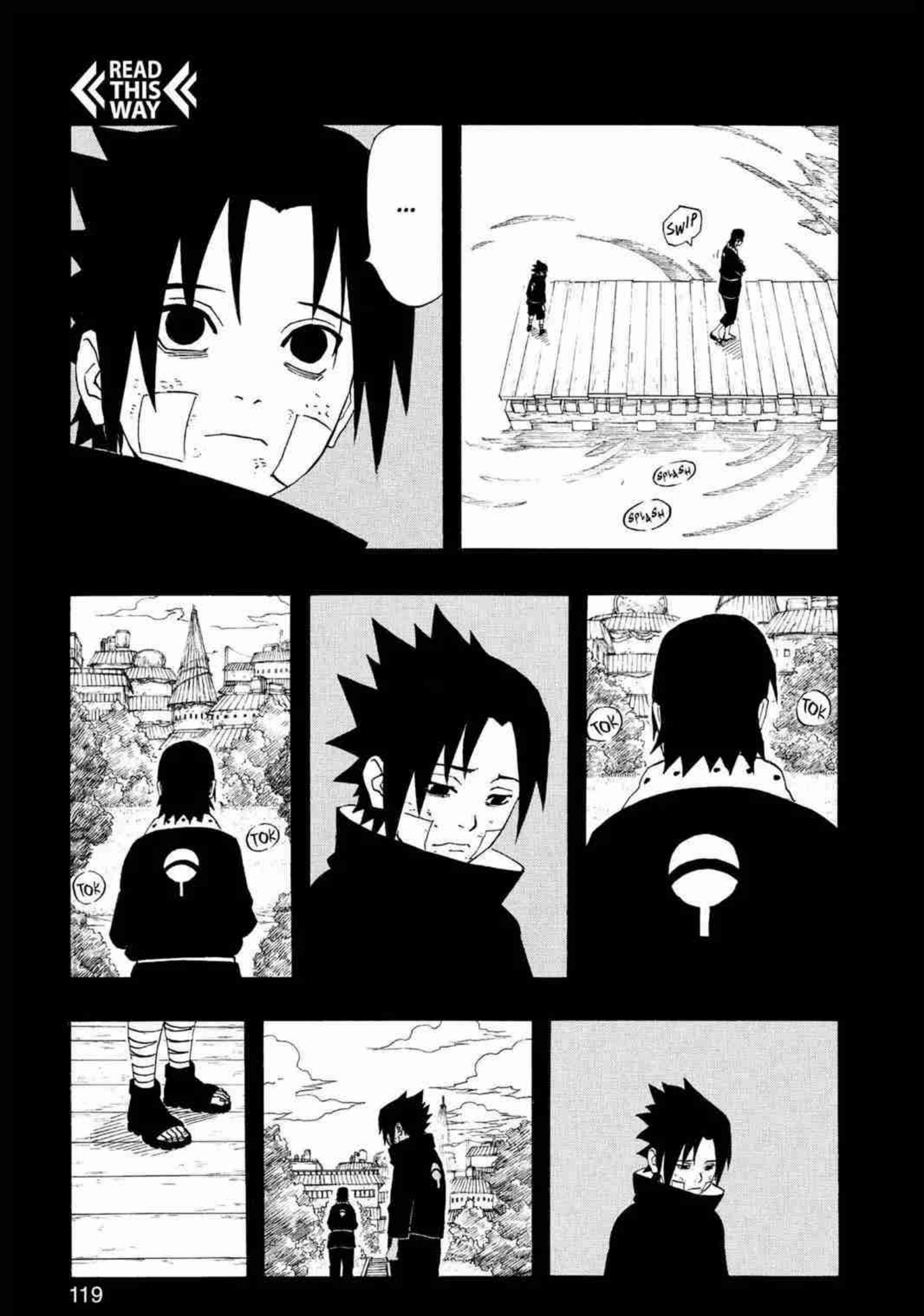
I MASTERED THAT JUTSU...
I WANT YOU TO SEE IT.

SHU
SHU

FIRE STYLE! GÔKAKYÛ NO JUTSU! FIREBALL TECH-NIQUE!!
FIN UP

HA AA
I CAN'T MESS THIS UP.

BOOM
...
SHUUUUU
SHPOOF


READ THIS WAY
...
SWIP
SPLASH
SPLASH
TOK
TOK
TOK
TOK

...THAT'S MY BOY.
WELL DONE ...
FROM NOW ON, LIVE UP TO THE CREST ON YOUR BACK, BETTER YOURSELF AND SOAR TO GREAT HEIGHTS.

I WILL !!

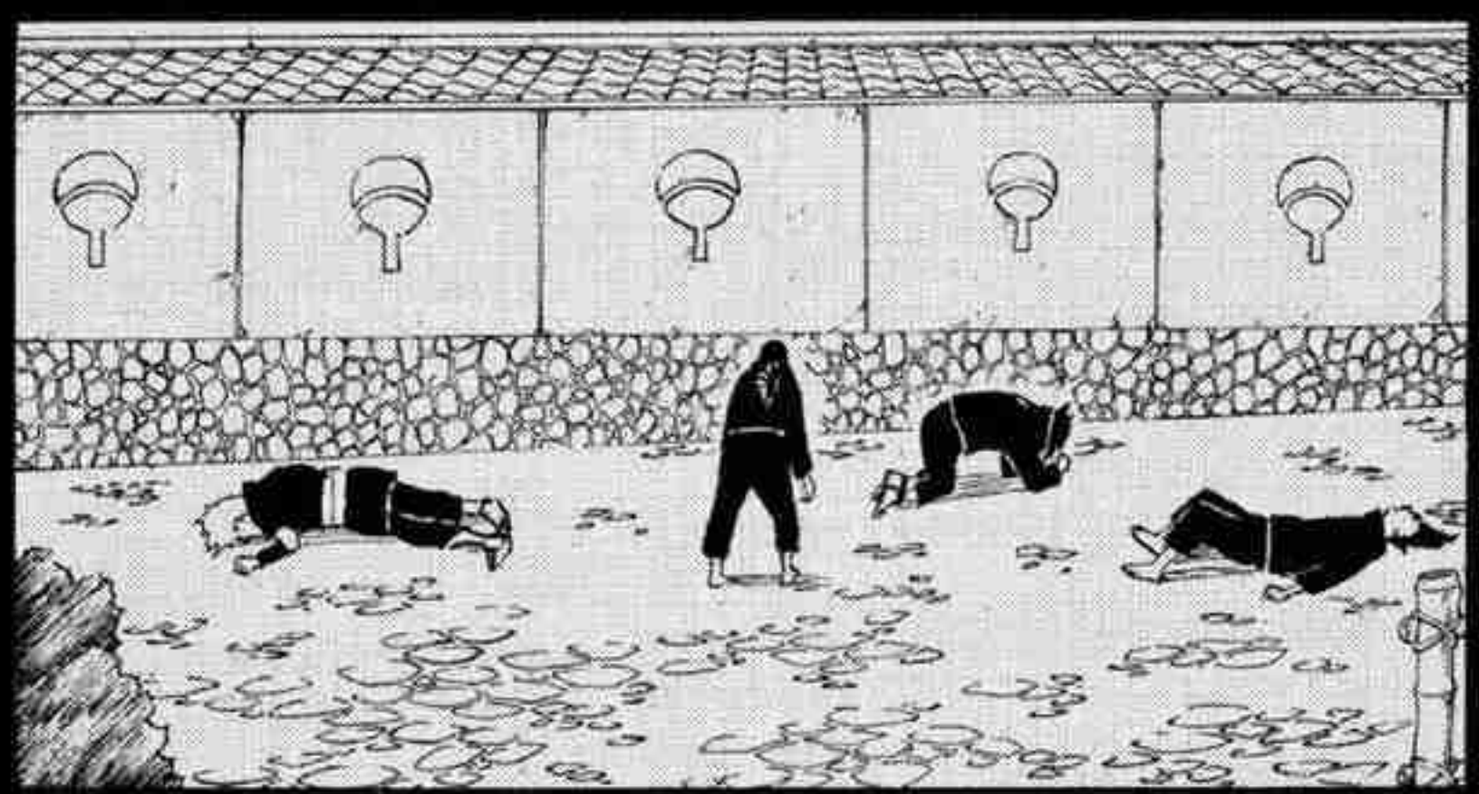
DON'T FOLLOW YOUR BROTHER ANY-MORE...

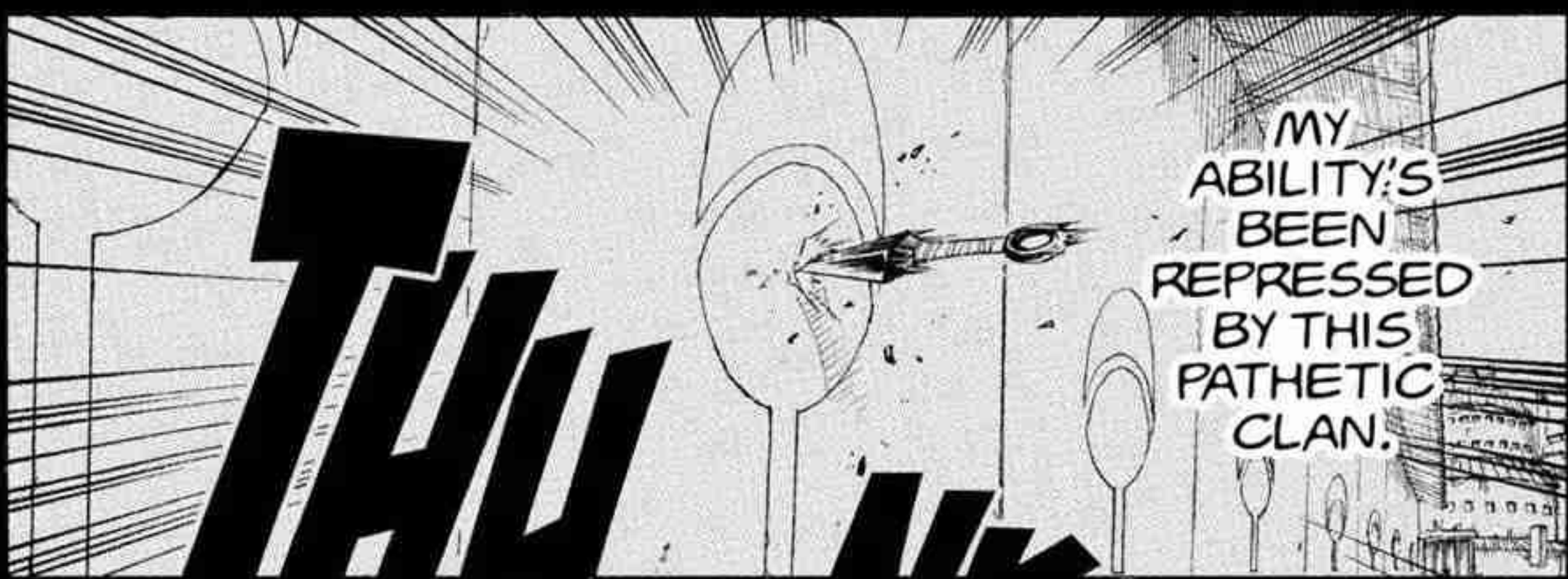
ONE MORE THING...

AND...

?!

OW!
TOK
SORRY, SASUKE. ANOTHER TIME.




THUD
MY ABILITY'S BEEN REPRESSED BY THIS PATHETIC CLAN.

BIG BROTHER ...

...ITACHI DOESN'T SEEM LIKE MY BROTHER ANY-MORE...
EVER SINCE THAT DAY...

HELP ME WITH MY SHURIKEN TODAY, PLEASE...
...
I'M BUSY... WHY DON'T YOU ASK FATHER?

...
TROT TROT

CH CH

BUT YOU'RE BETTER AT SHURIKEN JUTSU...
EVEN I CAN TELL THAT.
...WHY DO YOU ALWAYS TREAT ME LIKE SUCH A PEST?

WHAP

SORRY, SASUKE ...

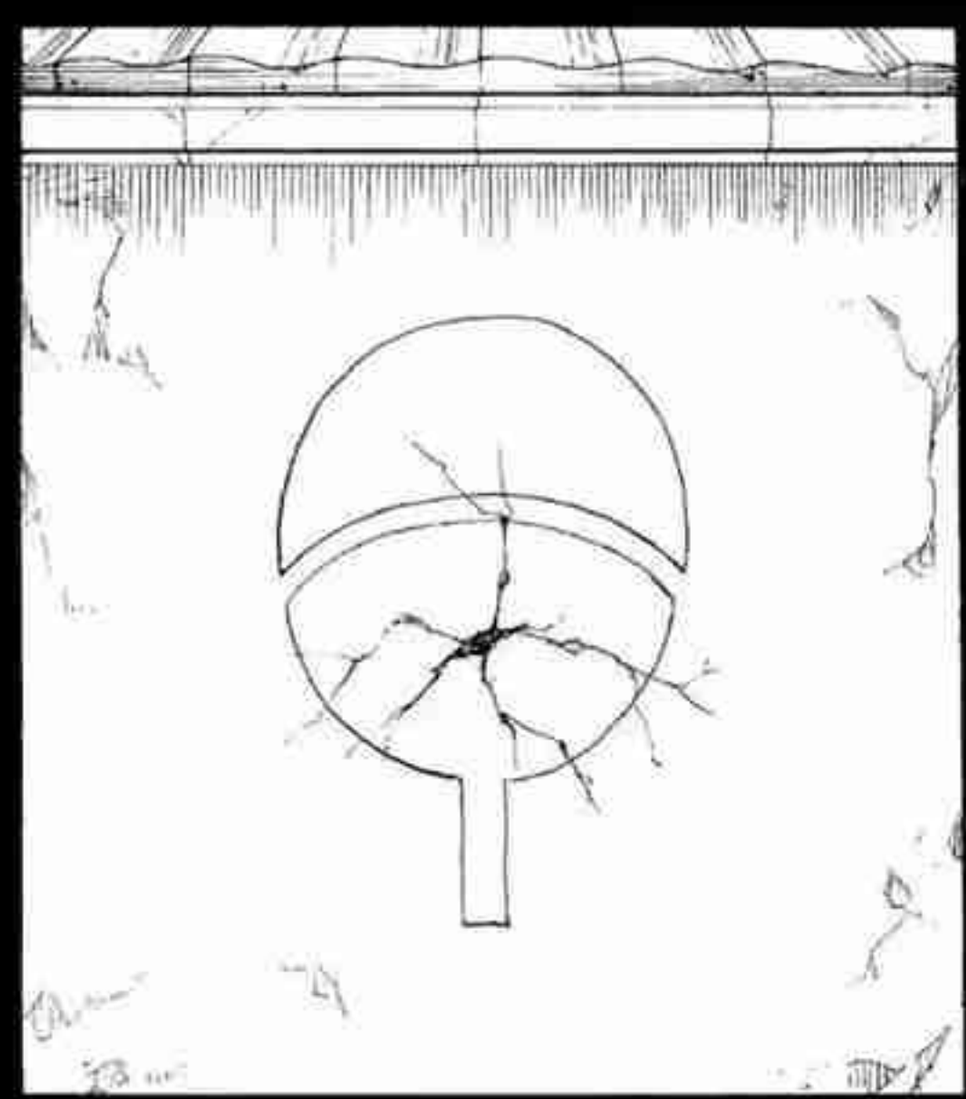
...MAYBE NEXT TIME.

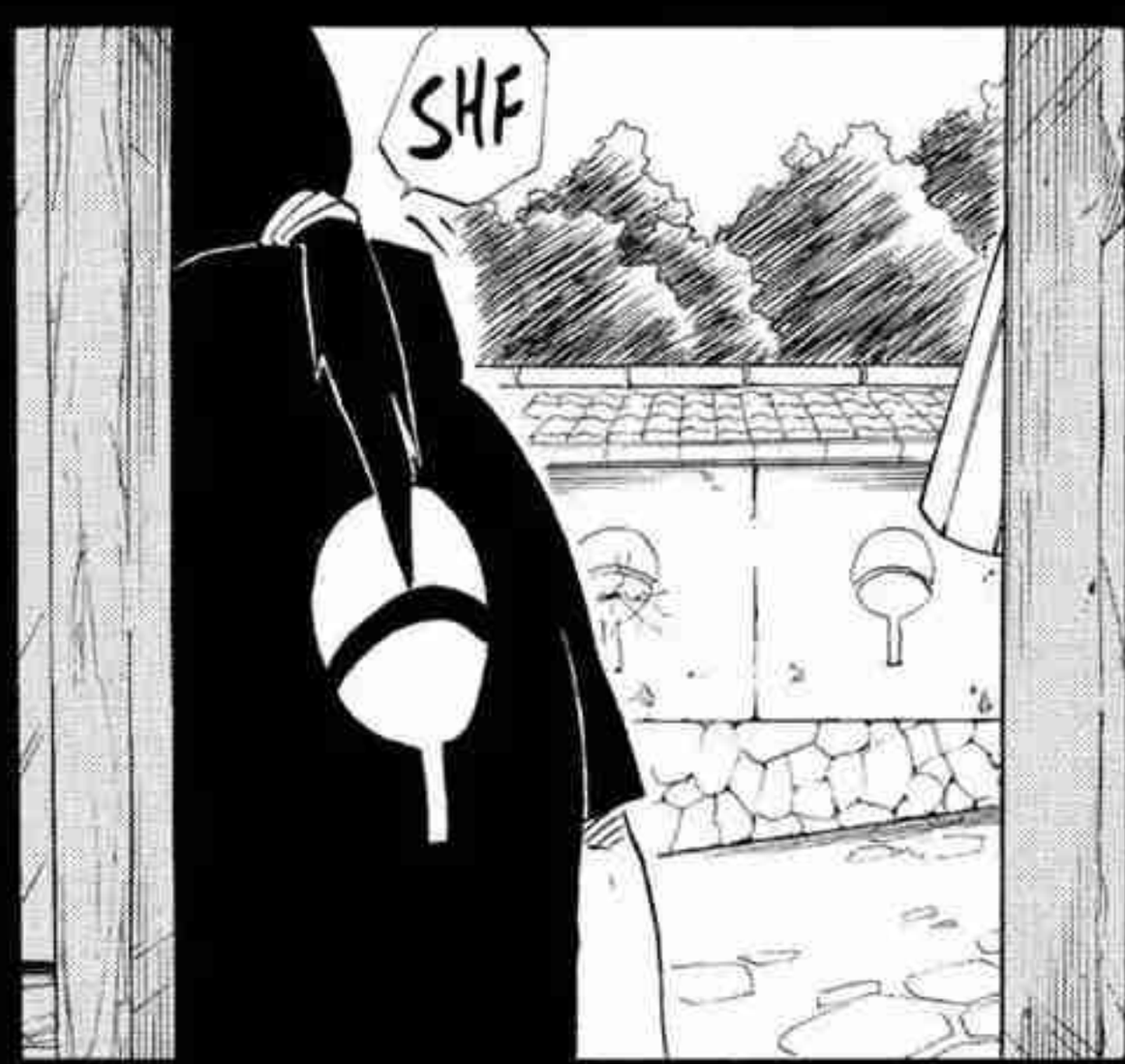
OWW!

I GUESS HE'S STILL THE SAME AS ALWAYS ...

THAT'S A RELIEF ...

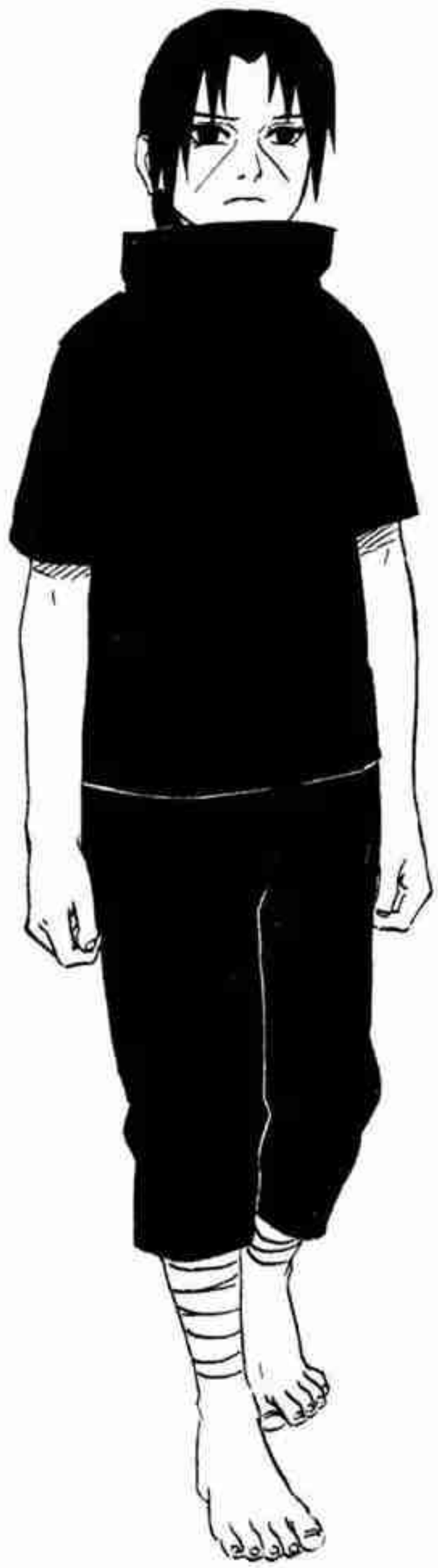
CLATTER

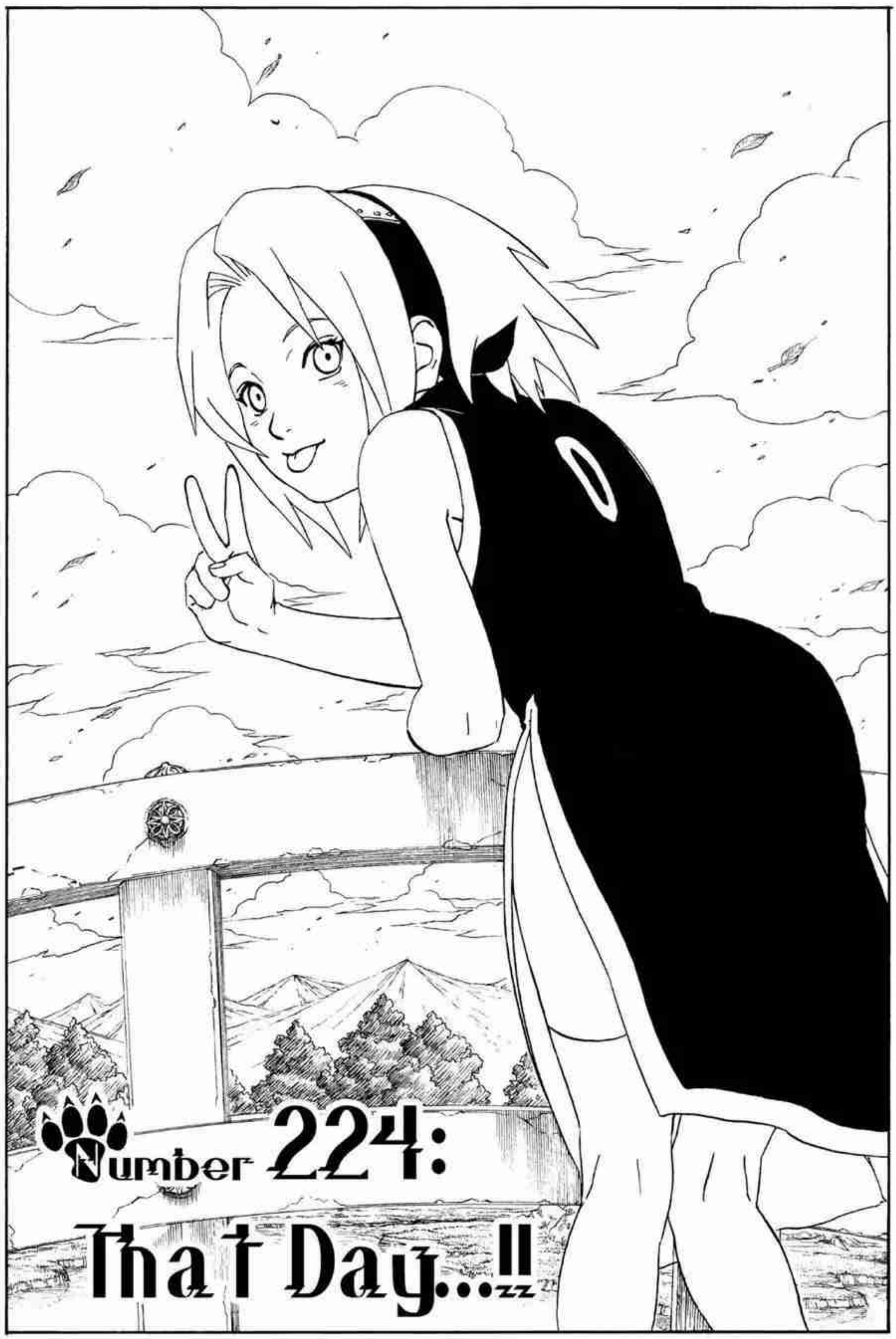




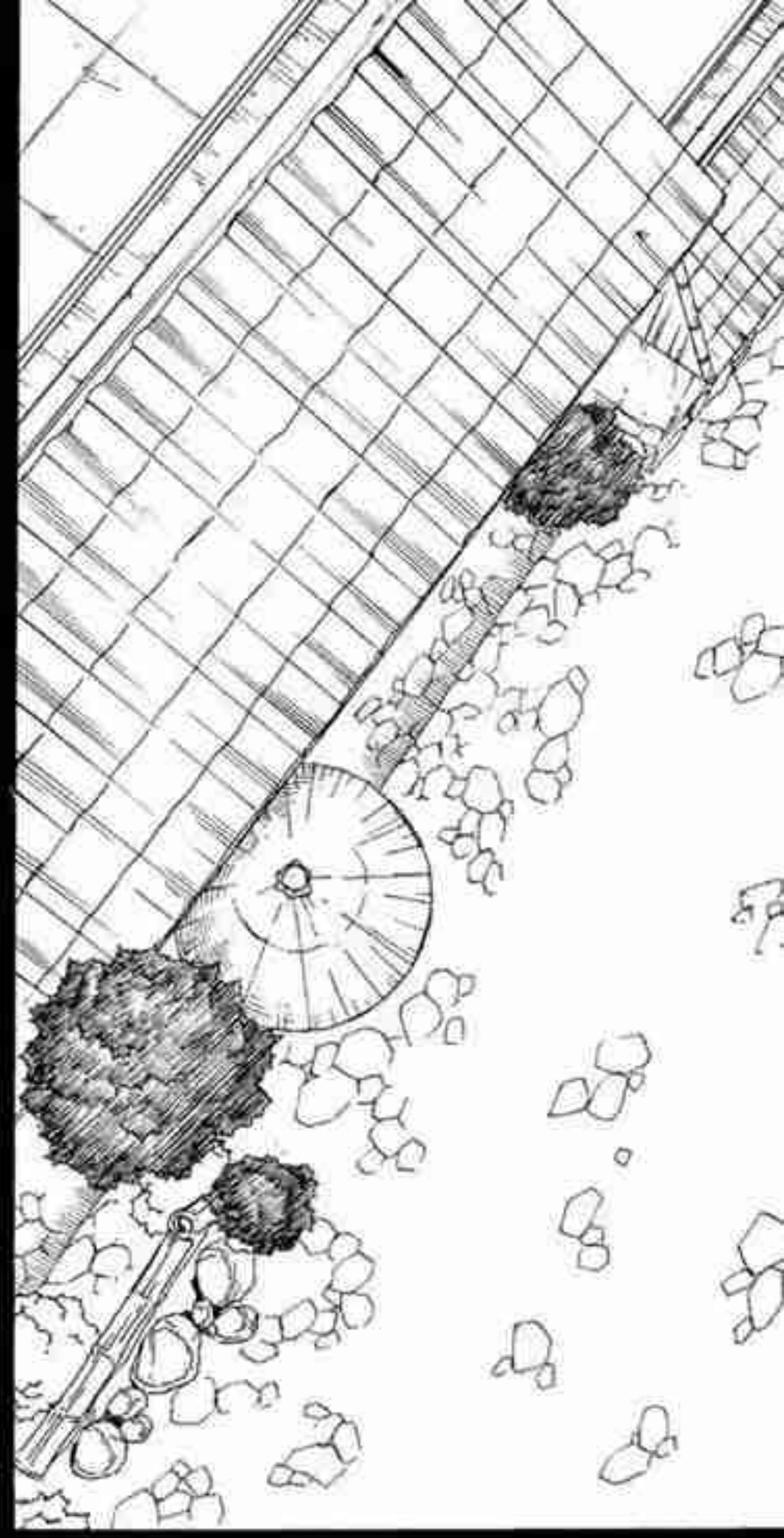
BROTHER ...

...




Number 224:
That Day...!!

MOM...



...REALLY THINKS OF ITACHI AND ME...
I WONDER WHAT FATHER...

!

...

...WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT...?

READ
THIS
WAY

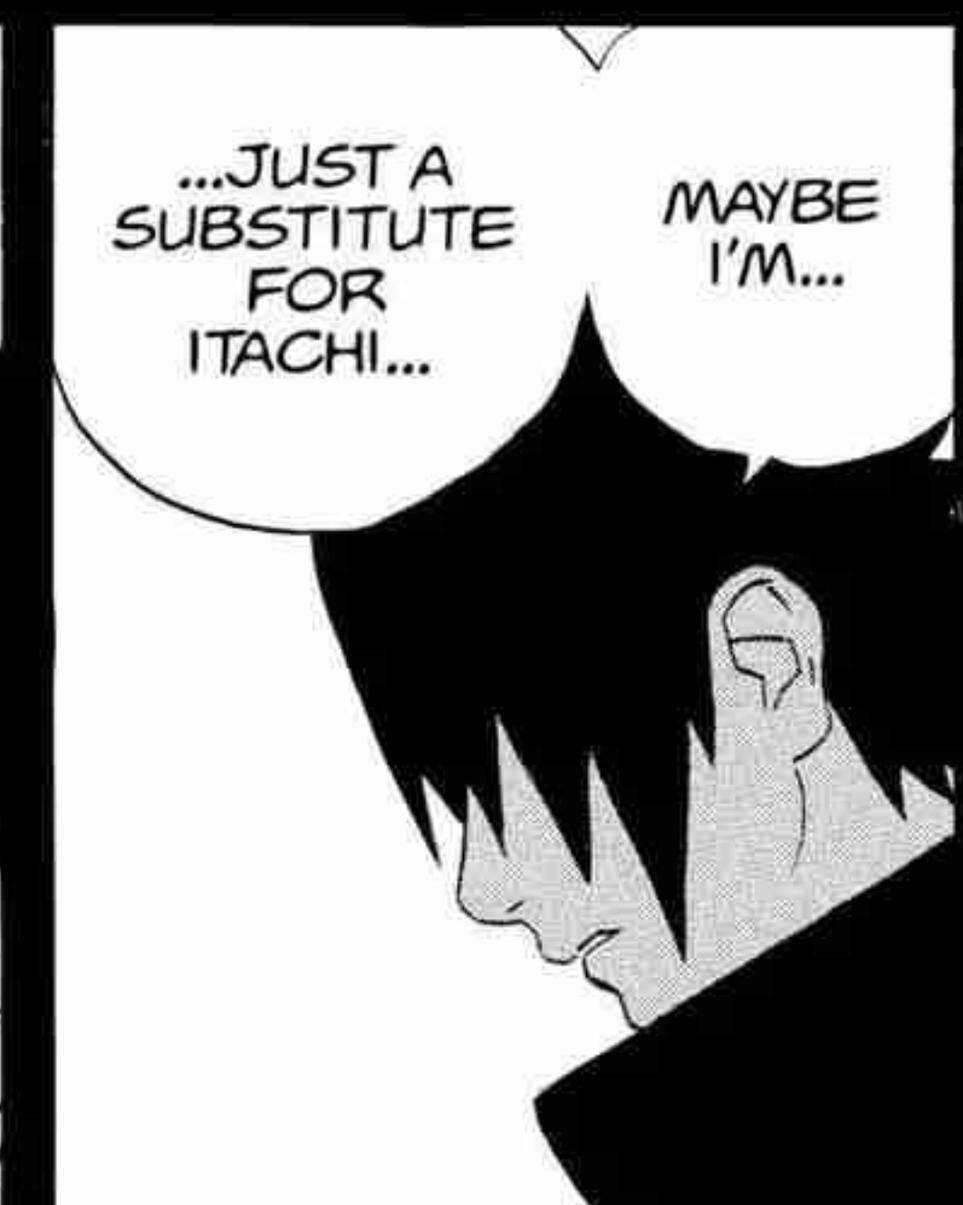
...SO I WAS REALLY HAPPY.
THAT'S WHAT FATHER ALWAYS SAYS TO ITACHI.

FATHER SAID, THAT'S MY BOY.
THE OTHER DAY...

...
BUT... FATHER AND ITACHI AREN'T GETTING ALONG LATELY SO...

WELL ...
THAT'S GREAT.

SIGH ...
...


...JUST A SUBSTITUTE FOR ITACHI...
MAYBE I'M...

...

THEN WHY IS EVERYTHING ALWAYS ABOUT ITACHI...?!

FATHER CARES ABOUT BOTH OF YOU.

ITACHI IS WHO HE IS, AND YOU'RE WHO YOU ARE.

YEAH... SO WHAT?

BUT AS CLAN LEADER...

FATHER IS IN A POSITION OF RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT THE CLAN.

...THAT'S NOT TRUE.

SO MAYBE THAT'S WHY HE SEEMS TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO ITACHI.

FATHER IS IN CHARGE OF SUPERVISING THOSE DUTIES...

SO HE'S ENTRUSTED WITH PERFORMING CLAN DUTIES.

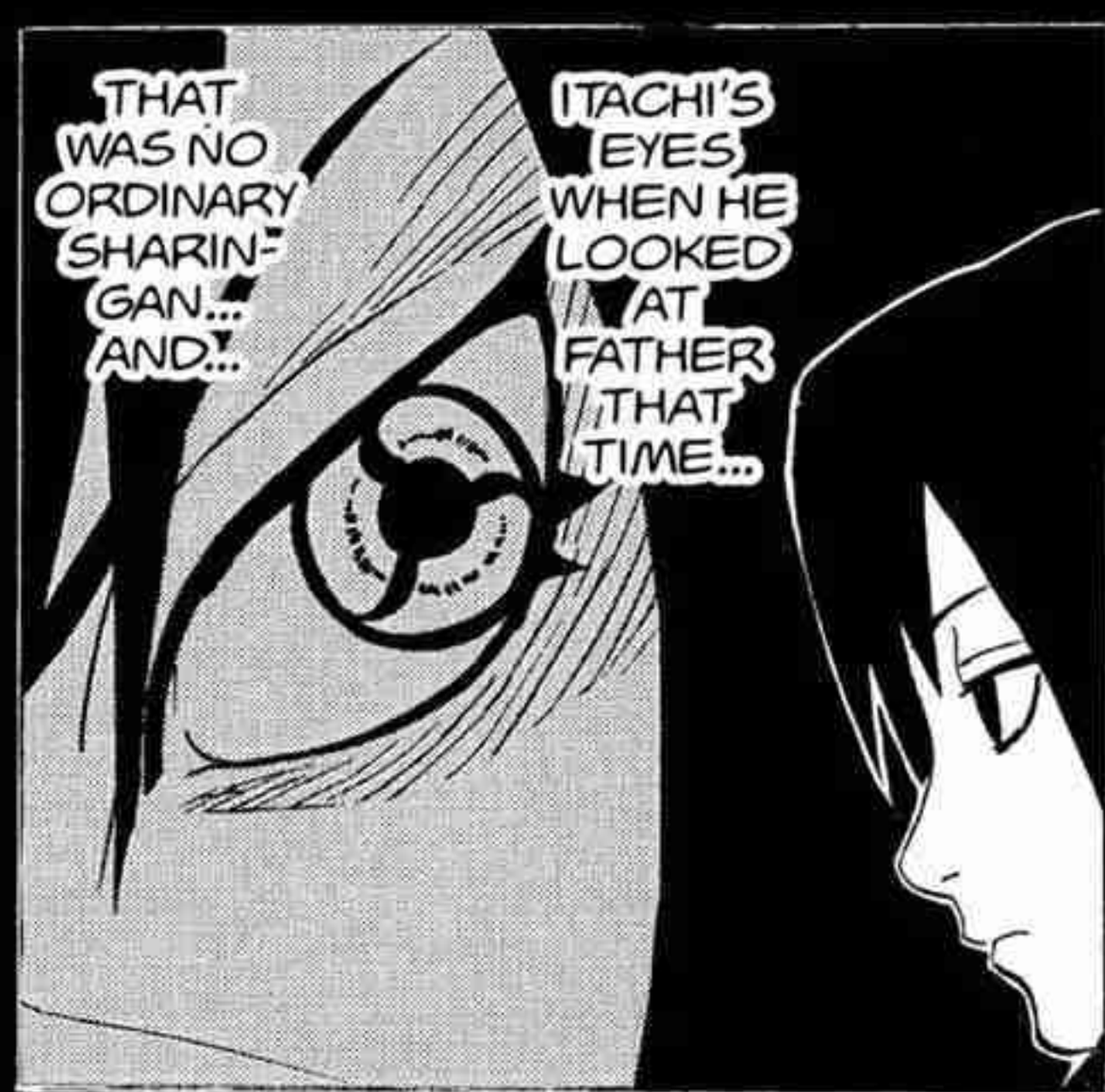
ITACHI IS OLDER THAN YOU... THAT'S ALL.

READ THIS WAY
...
BUT, YOU KNOW FATHER... ALWAYS SULLEN-LOOKING AND AWKWARD.
...HE TALKS ABOUT YOU ALL THE TIME.
BUT JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME... WHEN WE TALK...
...
!
CHAK

CLINK CLANK

...BUT WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN FATHER AND ITACHI...?

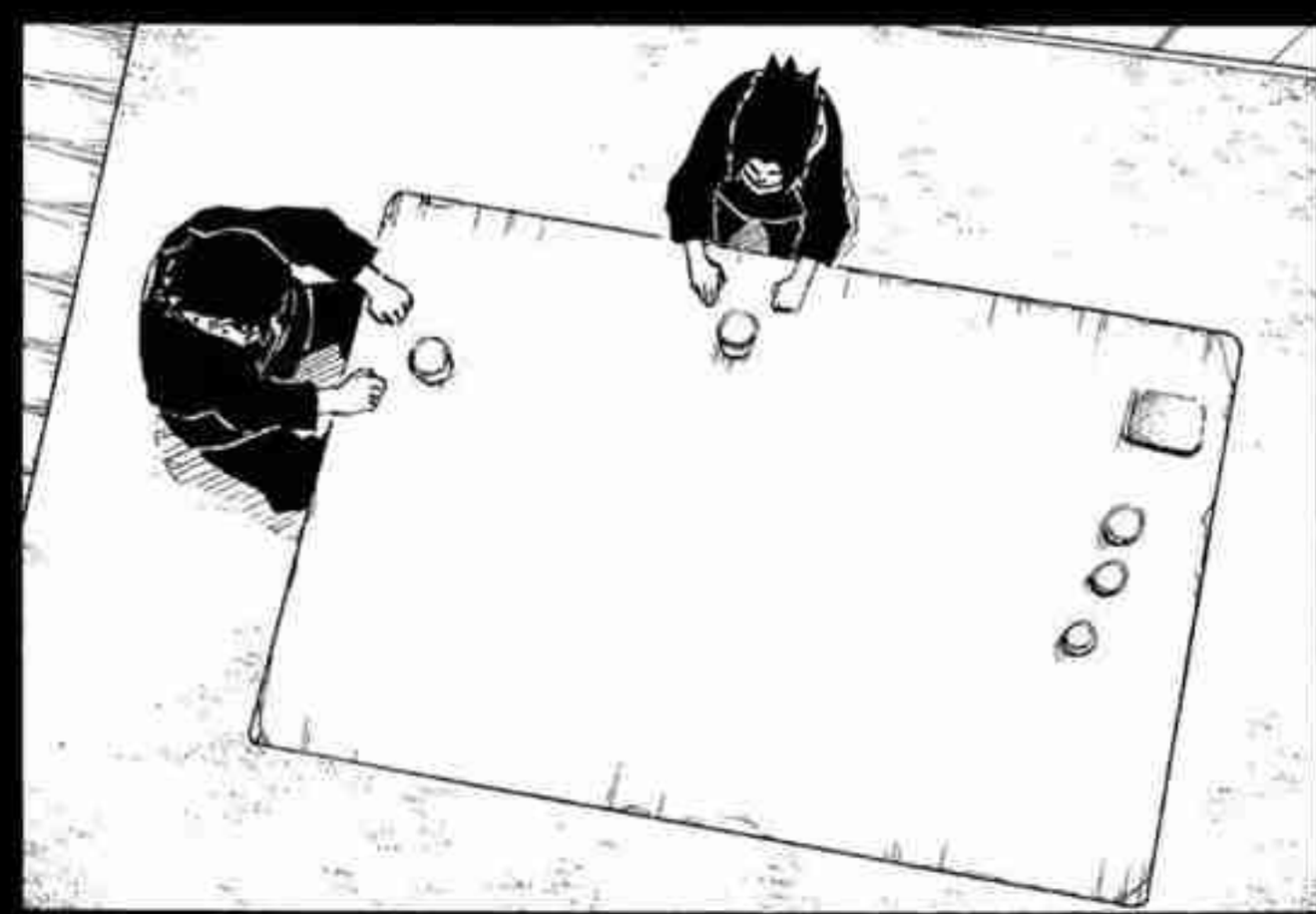
FATHER ...
!


THAT WAS NO ORDINARY SHARIN-GAN... AND...
ITACHI'S EYES WHEN HE LOOKED AT FATHER THAT TIME...

READ THIS WAY
BECAUSE... I'M YOUR SON.
...BUT I'LL MASTER IT SOMEDAY!
ARE THERE DIFFERENT KINDS OF SHARINGAN?
BUT IT'S TOO EARLY FOR YOU...
THE SHARINGAN IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM FIRE STYLE TECHNIQUES.
WHAT... ALREADY INTERESTED IN THE SHARINGAN?
MAN-GEKYO SHARIN-GAN!...
...IT'S CALLED MANGEKYO SHARINGAN.
IT'S TRUE THAT THERE'S A HIGHER LEVEL OF OCULAR JUTSU THAN SHARINGAN ...

AND I'VE HEARD THAT THIS KIND OF EYE-OPENING OCCURS ONLY UNDER SPECIAL CONDITIONS.

IT'S A LEGENDARY OCULAR JUTSU THAT HAS MANIFESTED IN ONLY A FEW OVER UCHIHA'S LONG HISTORY.



READ
THIS
WAY

YOUR BROTHER'S ALWAYS BEEN A LITTLE DIFFERENT, SON...
...
HE DOESN'T LIKE TO GET TOO CLOSE TO PEOPLE.

...

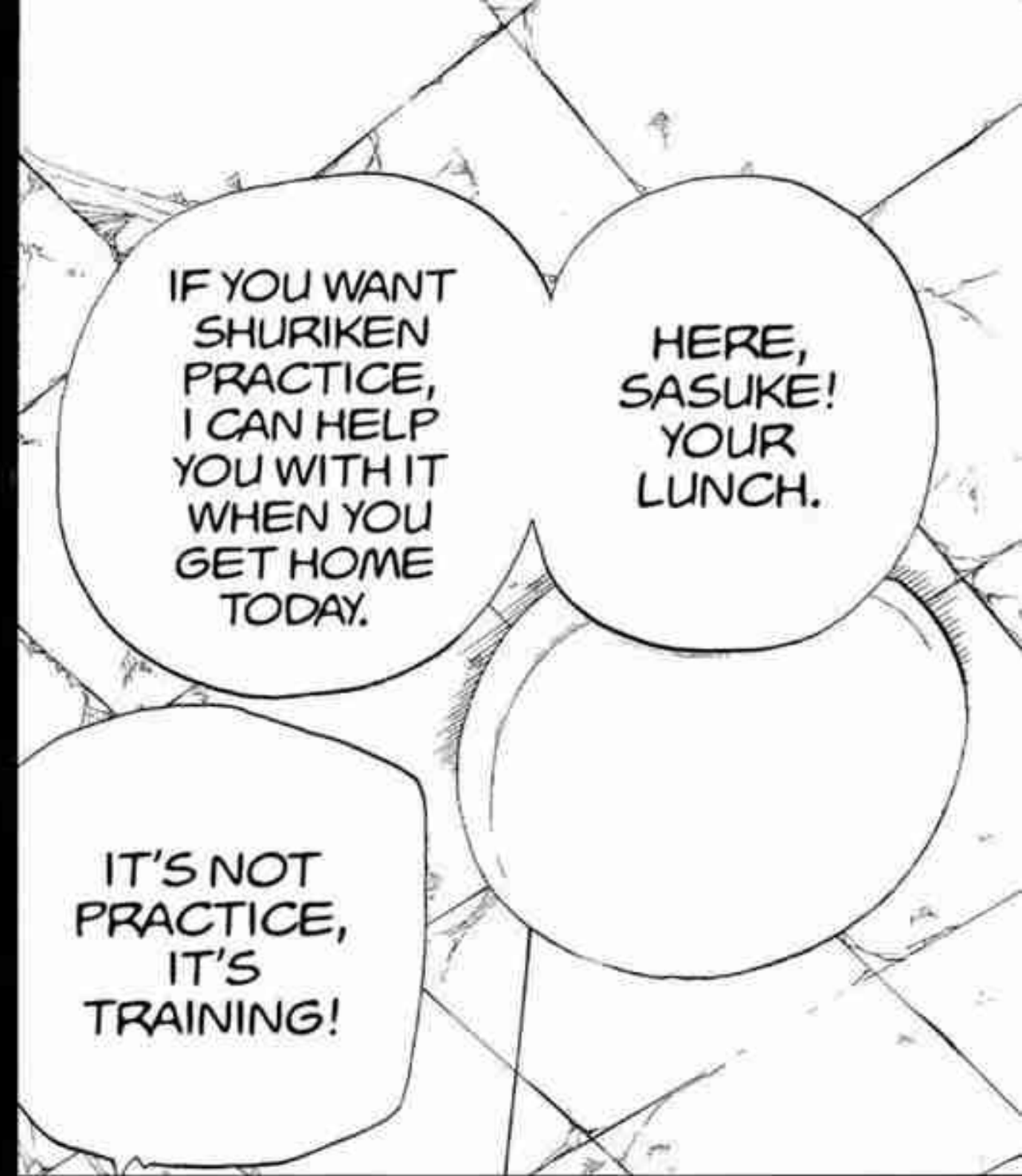
...EVEN THOUGH I'M HIS LITTLE BROTHER ...
FATHER, WHY DOESN'T BIG BROTHER EVER LOOK AFTER ME?

I CAN'T EVEN READ HIM... HIS OWN FATHER...
WHO KNOWS ...

WHY?

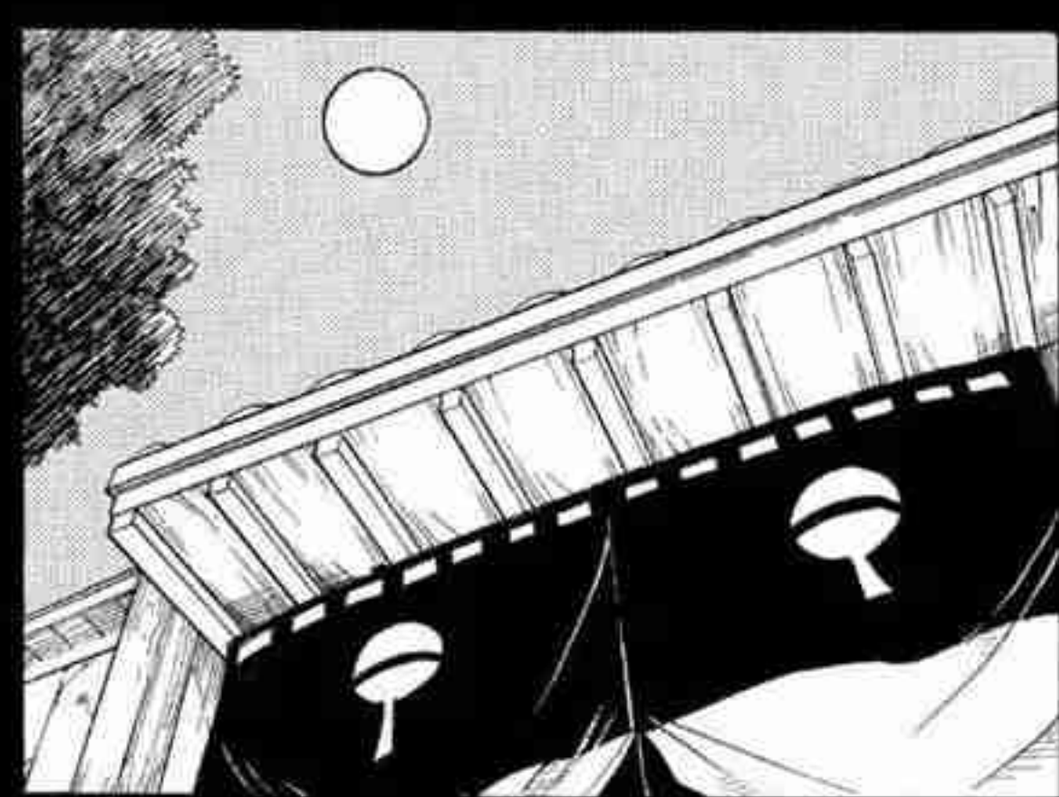
I DIDN'T UNDER-STAND WHAT WAS HAPPENING THEN...
...

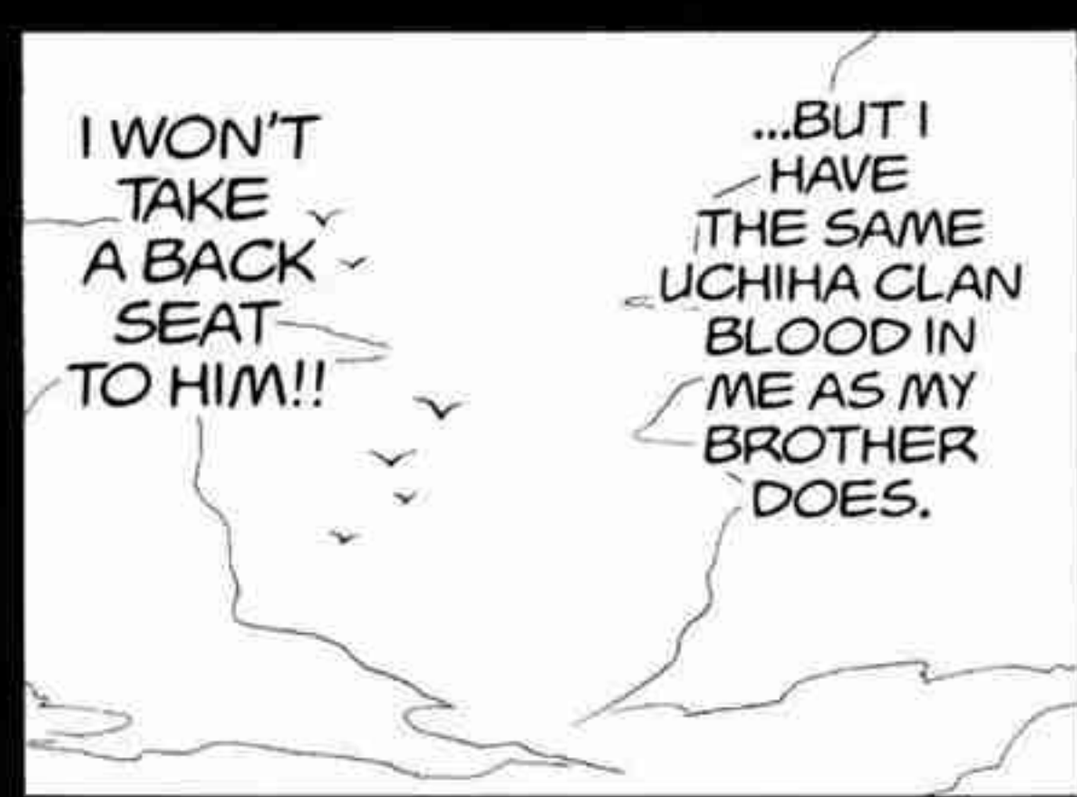
WHAT A RELIEF... FATHER DIDN'T SEEM TO REALLY HATE ITACHI.
I'M OFF!


IF YOU WANT SHURIKEN PRACTICE, I CAN HELP YOU WITH IT WHEN YOU GET HOME TODAY.
HERE, SASUKE! YOUR LUNCH.
IT'S NOT PRACTICE, IT'S TRAINING!

HE WAS ABLE TO USE THE SHARINGAN BY THE TIME HE WAS EIGHT... AND THEN WHEN HE WAS TEN, HE ROSE TO CHÛNIN RANK...
BIG BROTHER GRADUATED TOP SEAT FROM THE ACADEMY WHEN HE WAS ONLY SEVEN...

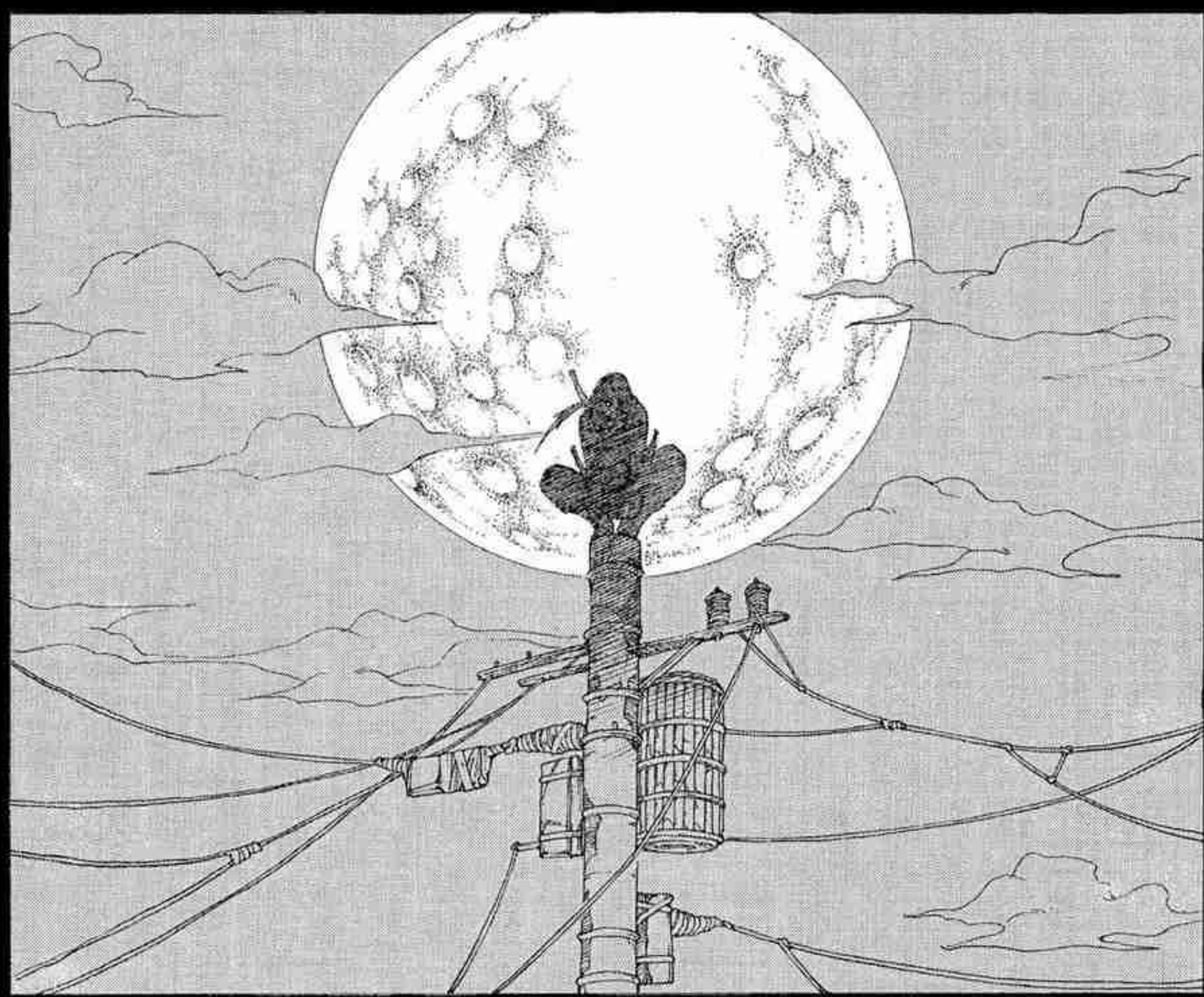
TROT TROT




I WON'T TAKE A BACK SEAT TO HIM!!
...BUT I HAVE THE SAME UCHIHA CLAN BLOOD IN ME AS MY BROTHER DOES.

!

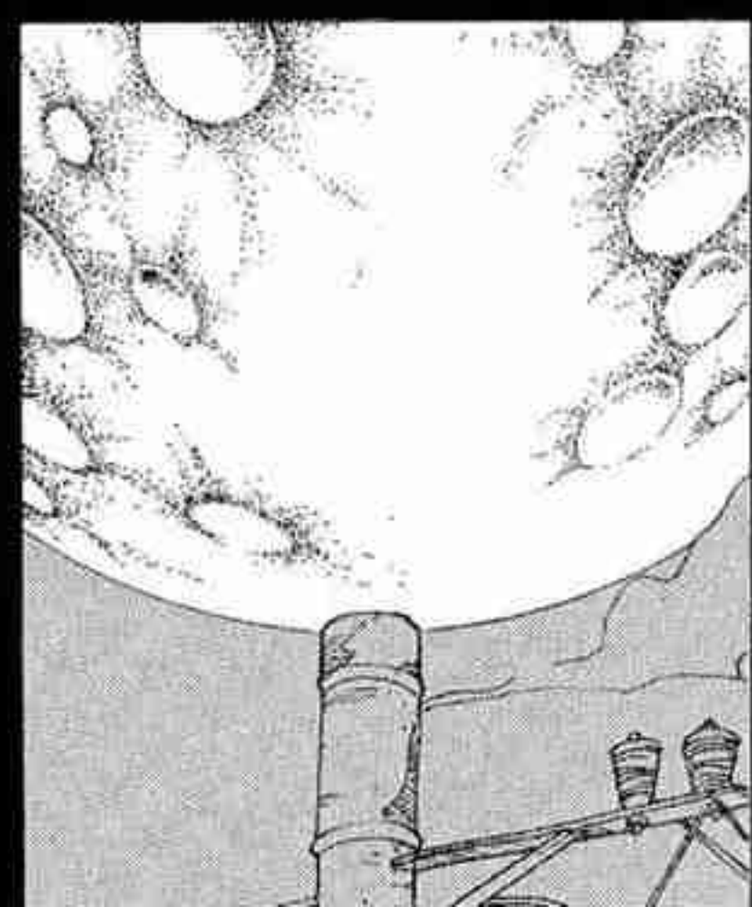
I STAYED BEHIND TO THROW SHURIKEN SO LONG IT'S GOTTEN LATE...



!!

...I THOUGHT I SAW SOME-THING JUST NOW...

...
WHAT...?



虎視

IS THIS...

WH... WHAT...

READ THIS WAY
FATHER!! MOTHER!!
HOW?! WHY?!
WHO WOULD DO SUCH A...
...BIG BROTHER!! BIG BROTHER!! FATHER AND MOTHER ARE...!!
BIG BROTHER !
!!

...?!

UGH...
SLASH
FOOLISH LITTLE BROTHER ...

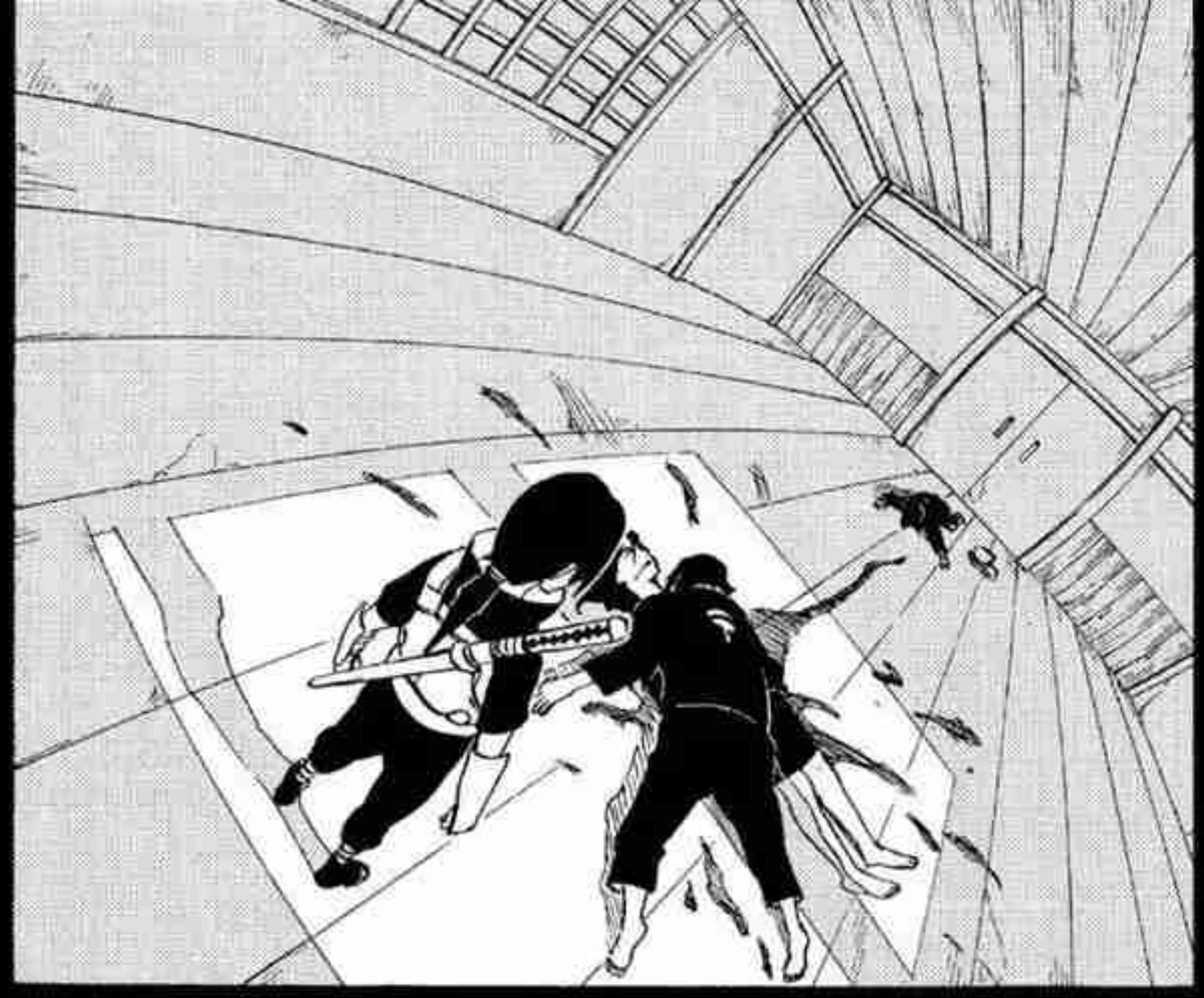
!!
THOCK

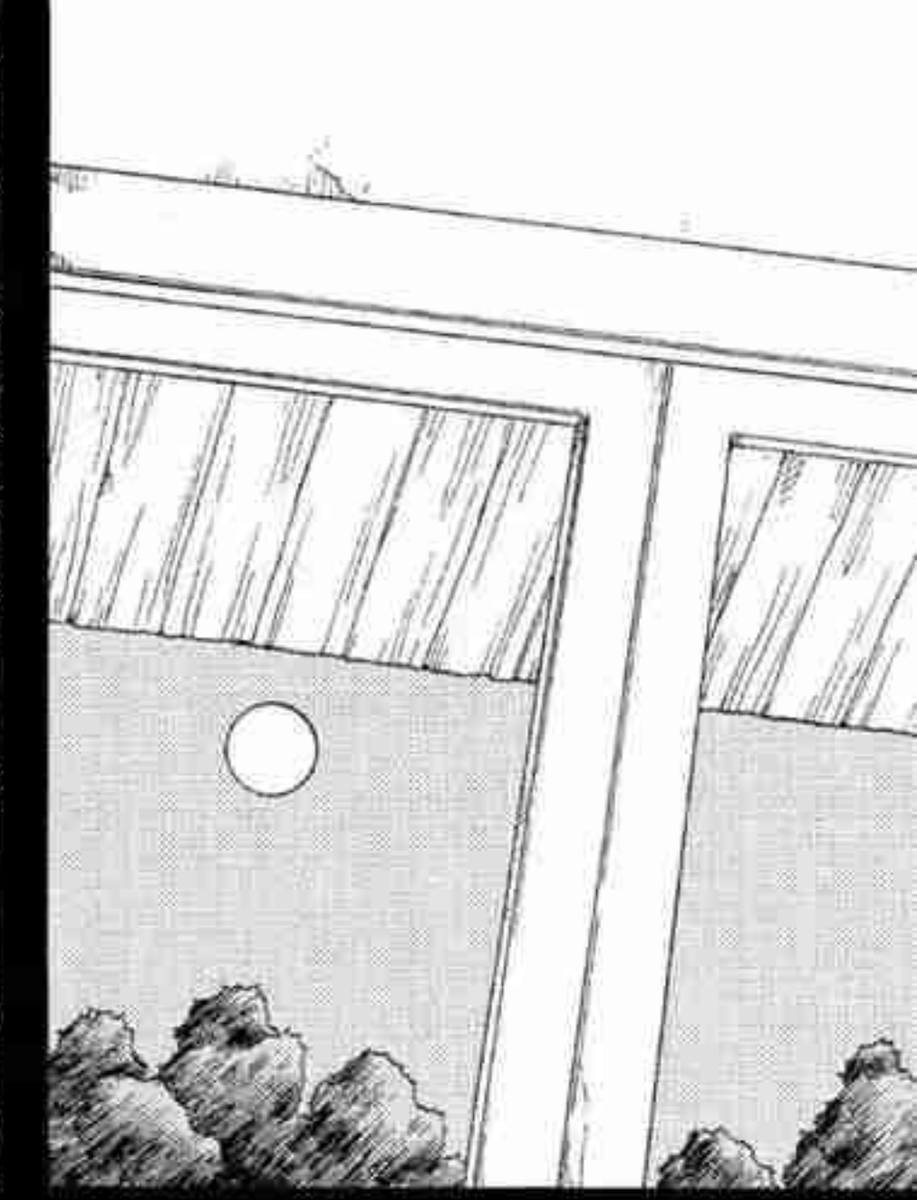
THUMP

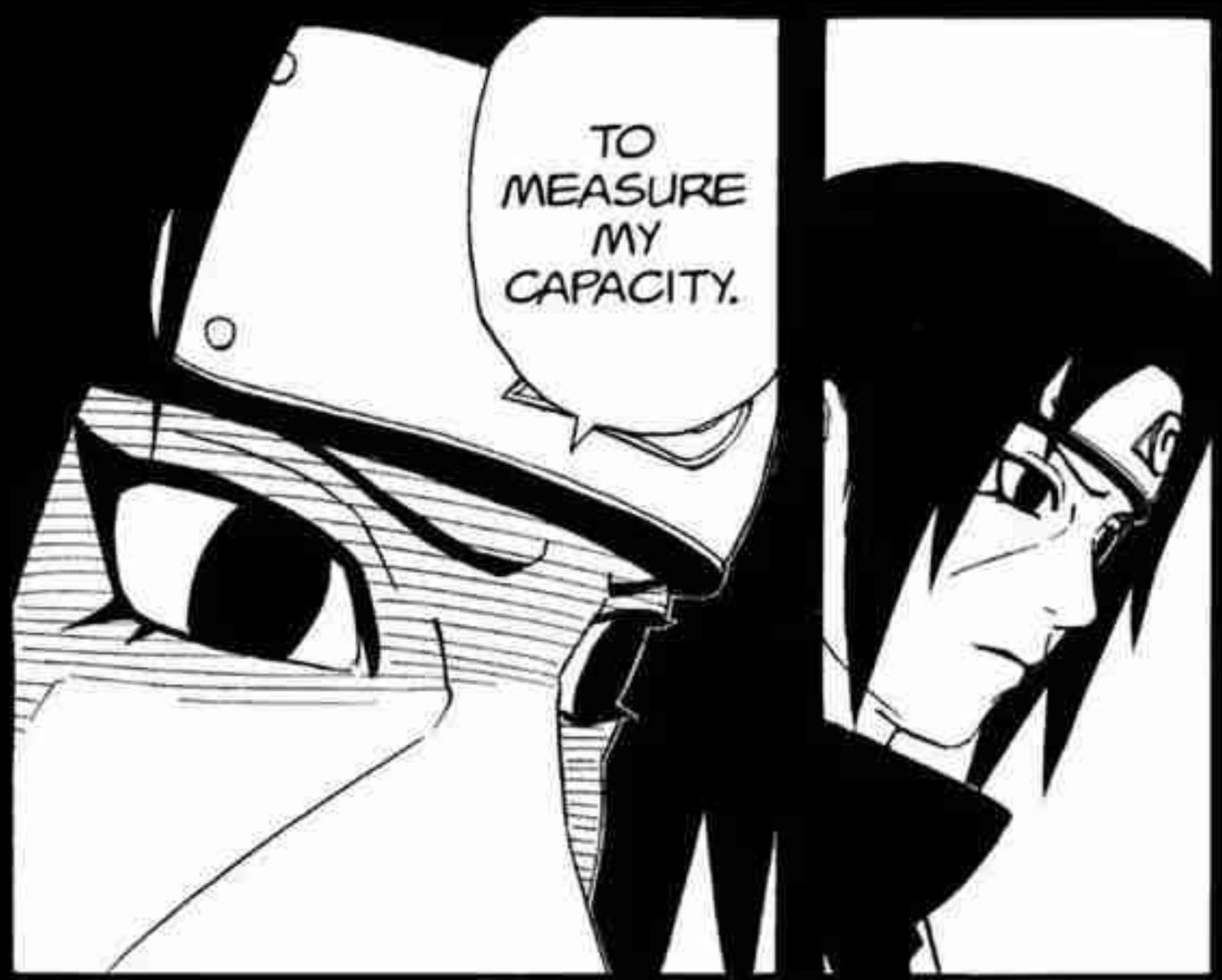
HUNH...

MAN-GEKYO SHARIN-GAN !!

GYAAAAHH...!!
...MY BOY.
...THAT'S...
...ALL THE TIME.
WHEN WE TALK, HE TALKS ABOUT YOU...
IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US.
SORRY, SASUKE.
ANOTHER TIME.

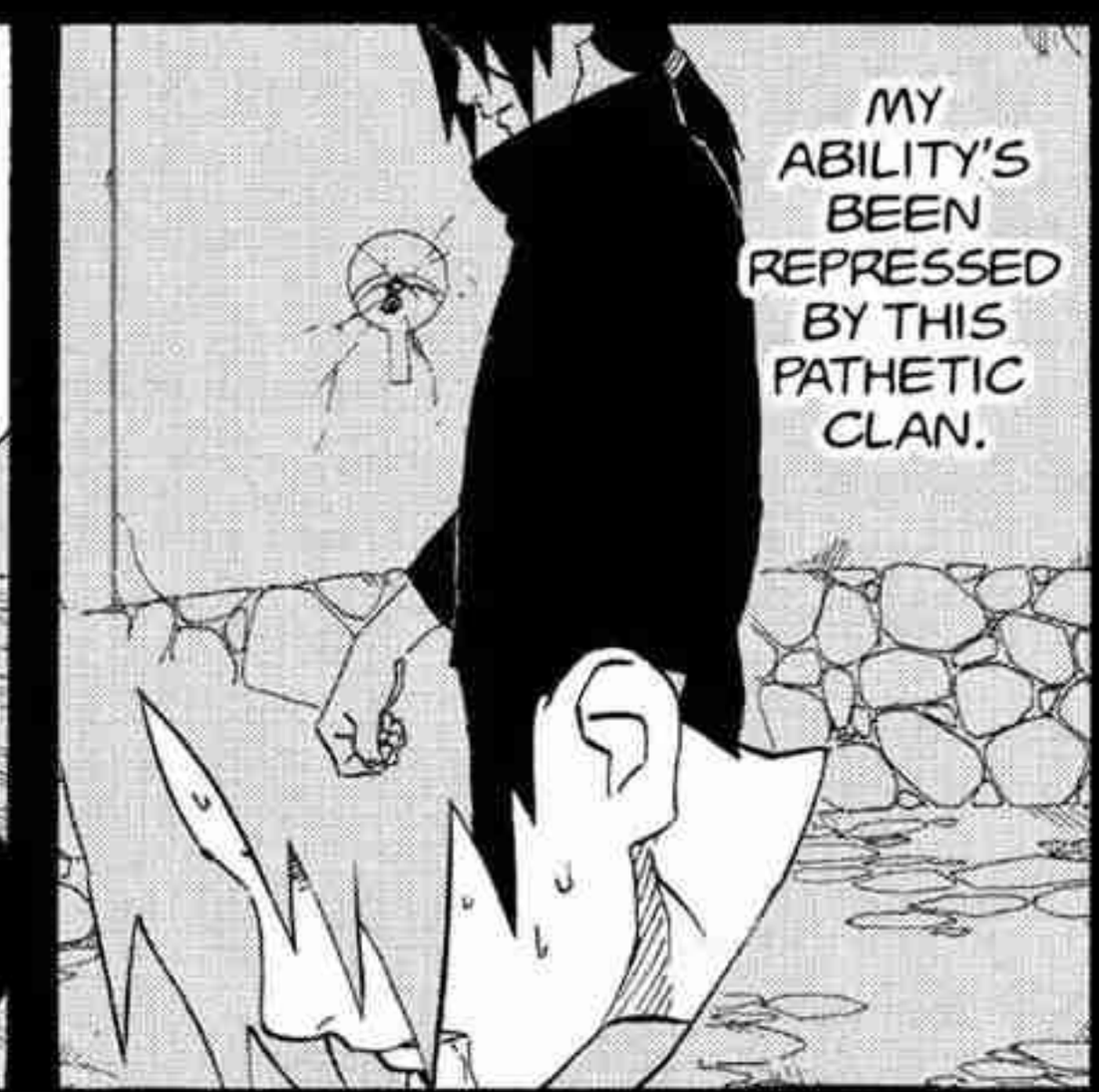





TO MEASURE MY CAPACITY.

...DID YOU...?
...WHY...

YOU... YOU KILLED THEM... FOR THAT?
...MEASURE YOUR CAPACITY...?

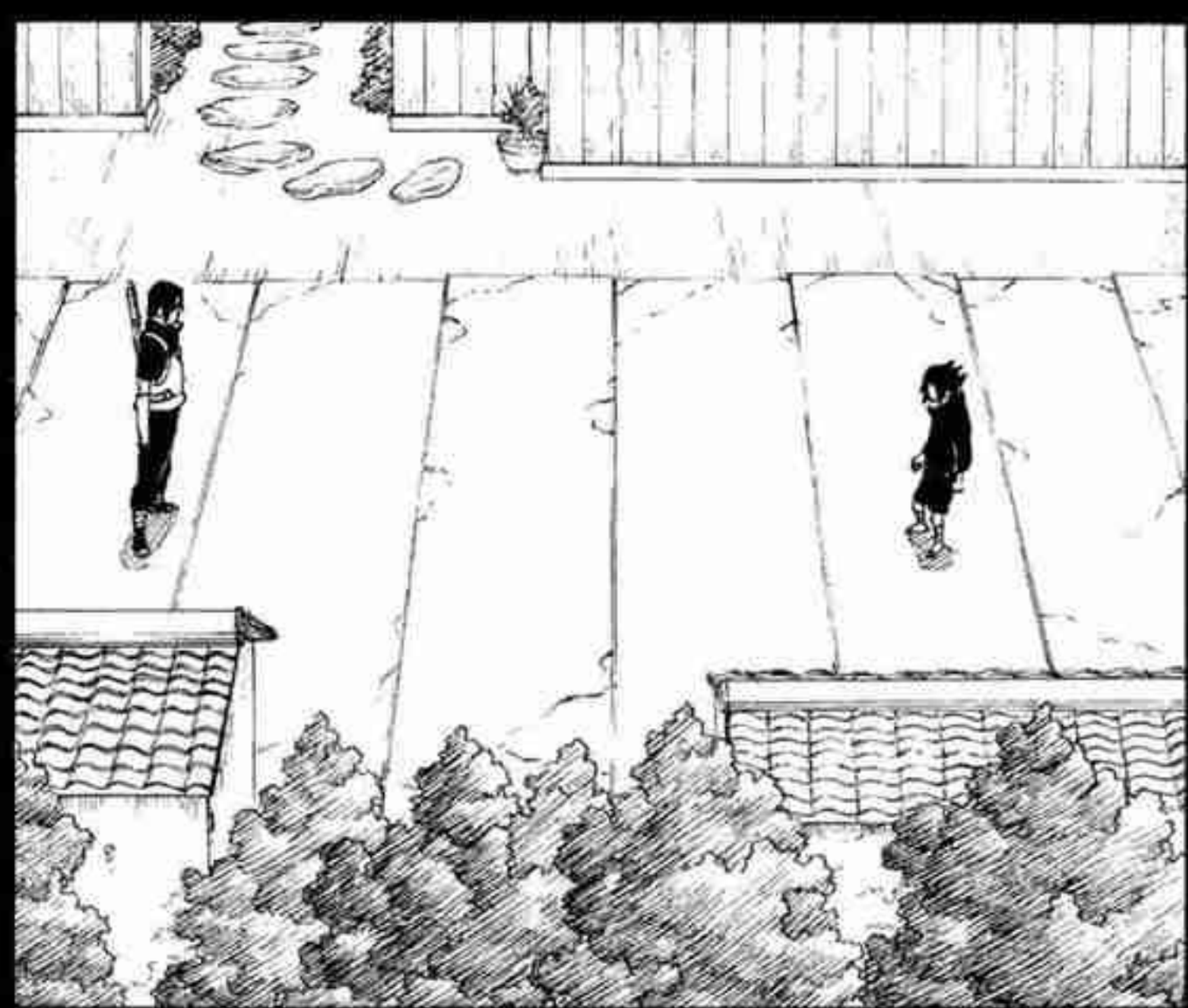

MY ABILITY'S BEEN REPRESSED BY THIS PATHETIC CLAN.

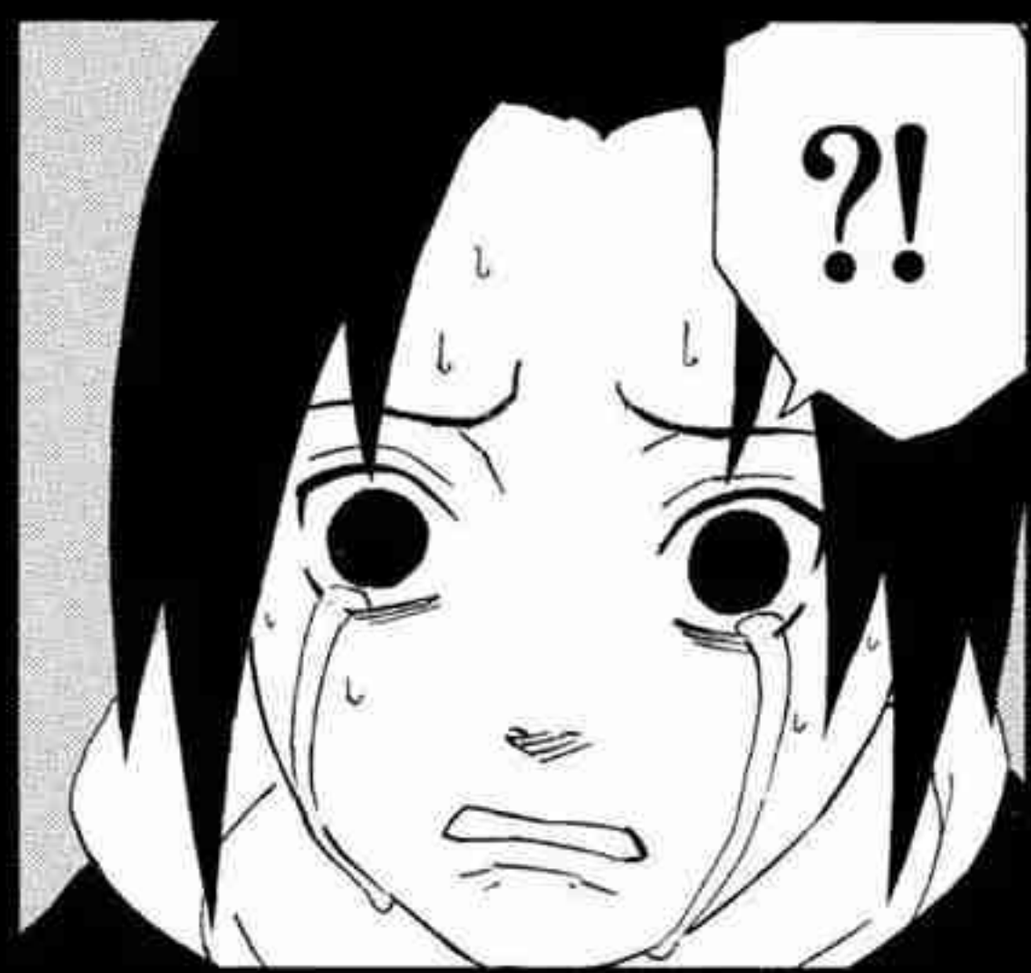
READ THIS WAY
WHAT'S...
I HAD TO.
THOOM
THUD
...WRONG WITH YOU?!

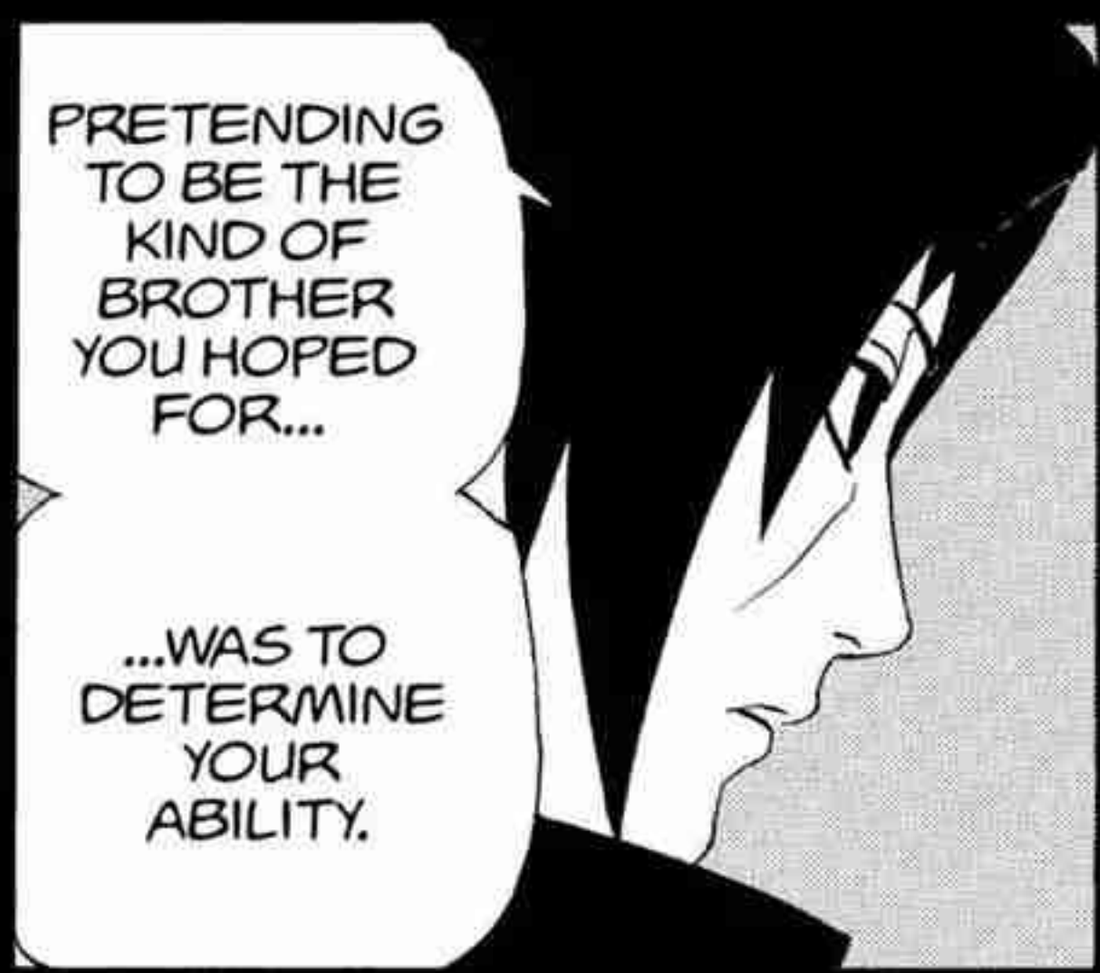
!
CLOMP

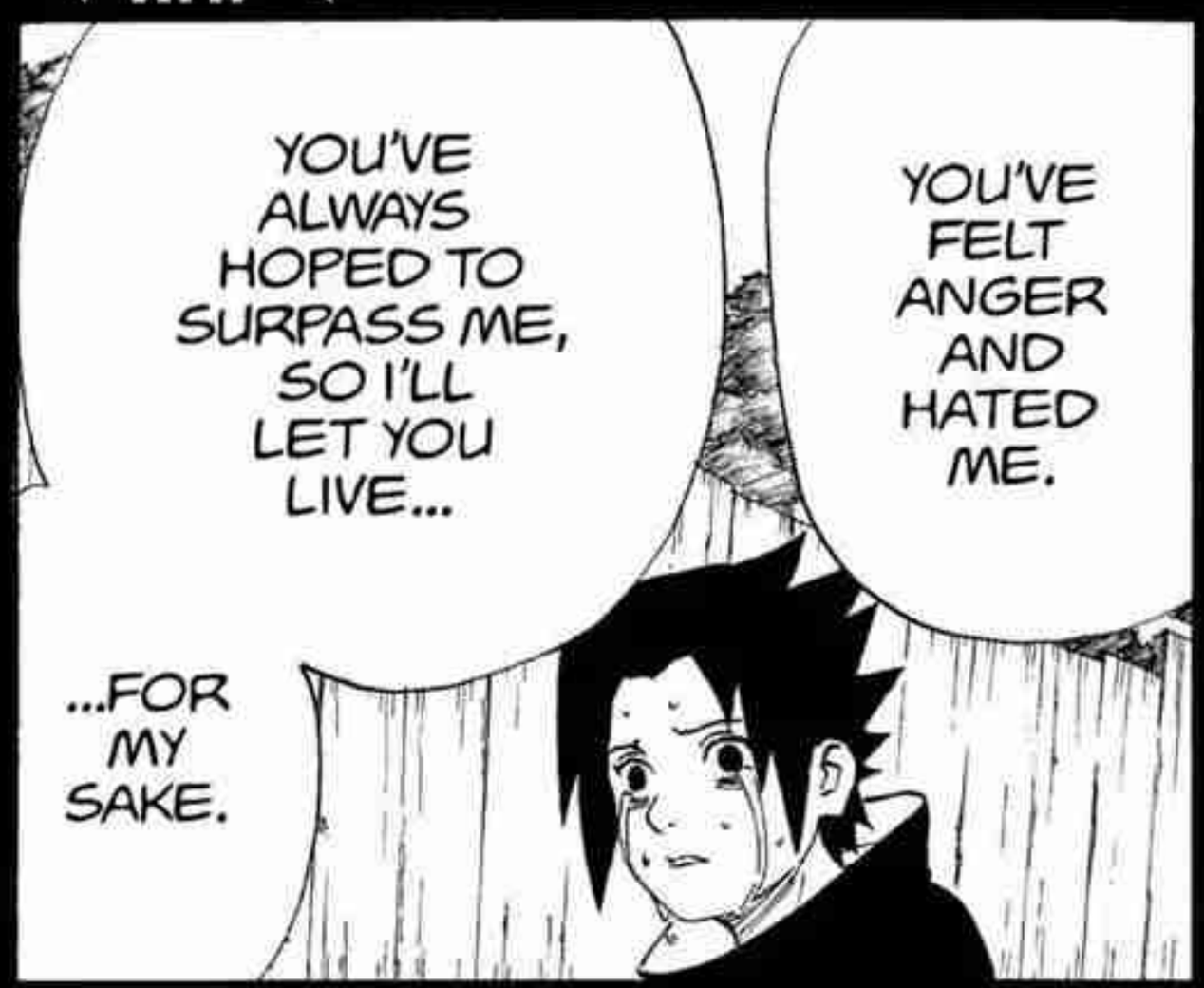
DASH
AFRAID!
'FRAID...

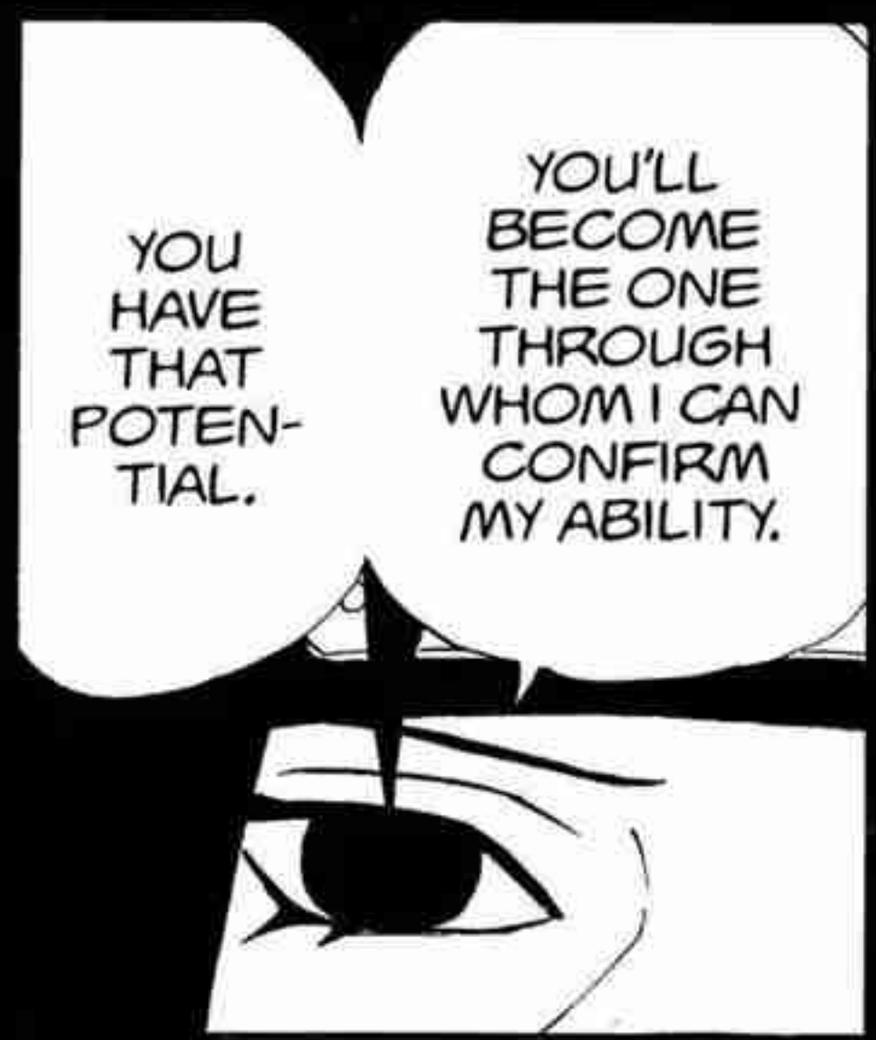
MY BROTHER WOULDN'T DO THIS.
IT'S NOT TRUE.
BECAUSE ...




?!


PRETENDING TO BE THE KIND OF BROTHER YOU HOPED FOR...
...WAS TO DETERMINE YOUR ABILITY.


YOU'VE ALWAYS HOPED TO SURPASS ME, SO I'LL LET YOU LIVE...
...FOR MY SAKE.
YOU'VE FELT ANGER AND HATED ME.


YOU HAVE THAT POTEN-TIAL.
YOU'LL BECOME THE ONE THROUGH WHOM I CAN CONFIRM MY ABILITY.

...

BUT THERE'S A CATCH.
JUST LIKE ME, YOU HAVE THE POWER TO AWAKEN THE MANGEKYO SHARINGAN.

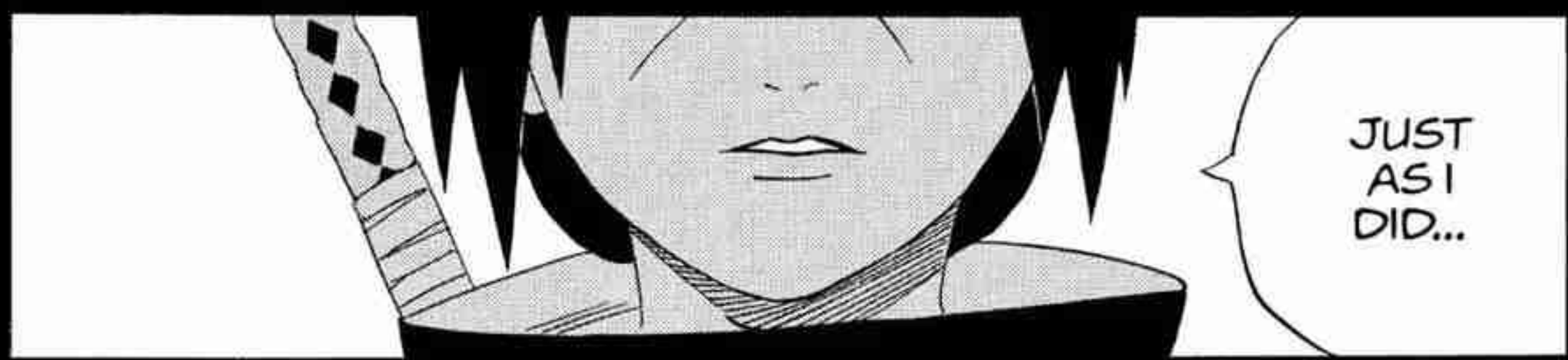
...YOUR CLOSEST FRIEND.
YOU HAVE TO KILL...

NARUTO
TM

8 21
Number 225: In Darkness...!!

KILL MY CLOSEST FRIEND ...?!

...!


JUST AS I DID...

...HE COMMITTED SUICIDE BY THROWING HIMSELF INTO THE NAKANO RIVER.
IT'S ABOUT SHISUI...

!!

... YOU...
... THAT WAS...

...KILLED SHISUI?!
YOU...

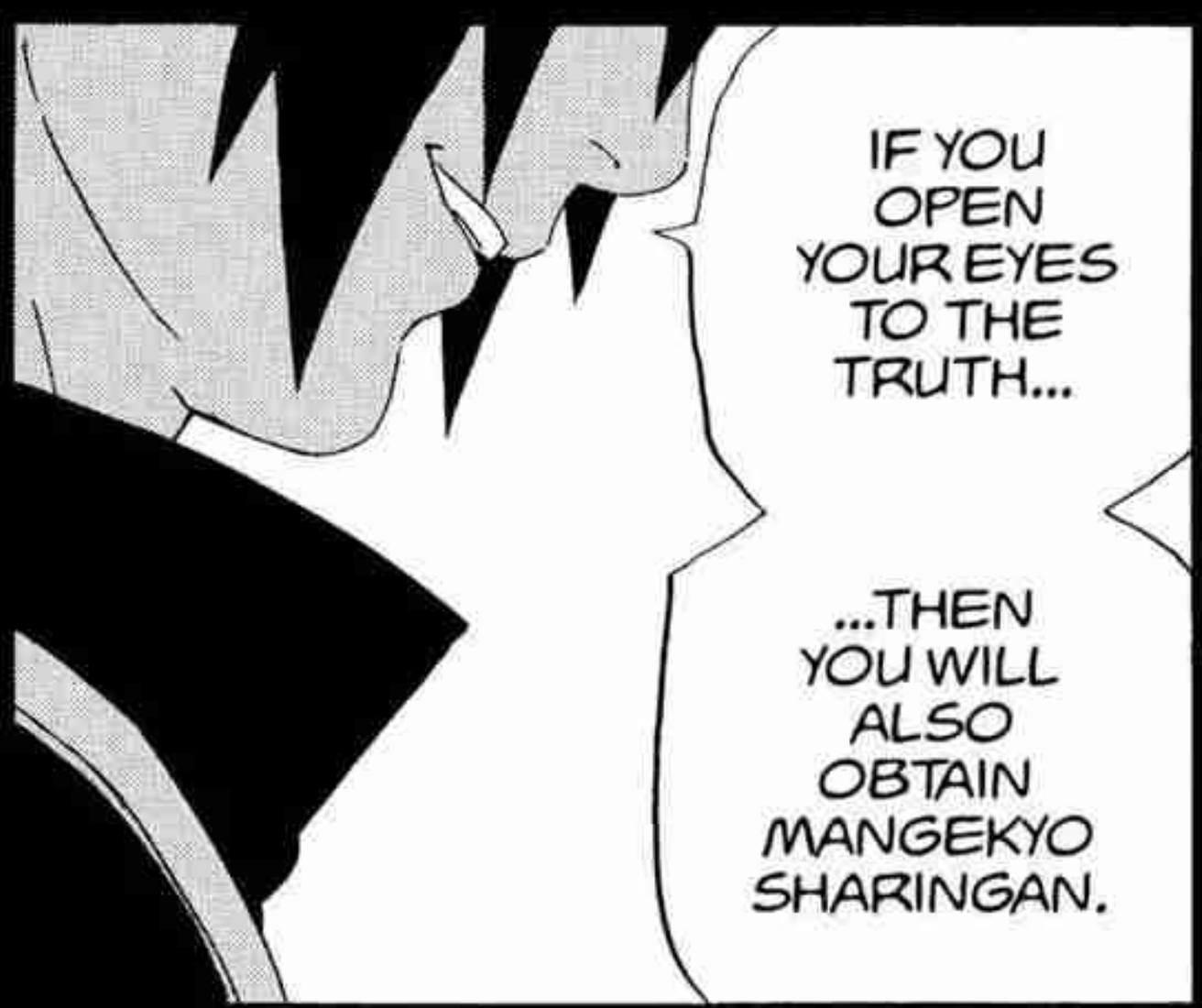
...WERE LIKE BROTHERS.
WE KNOW THAT YOU...

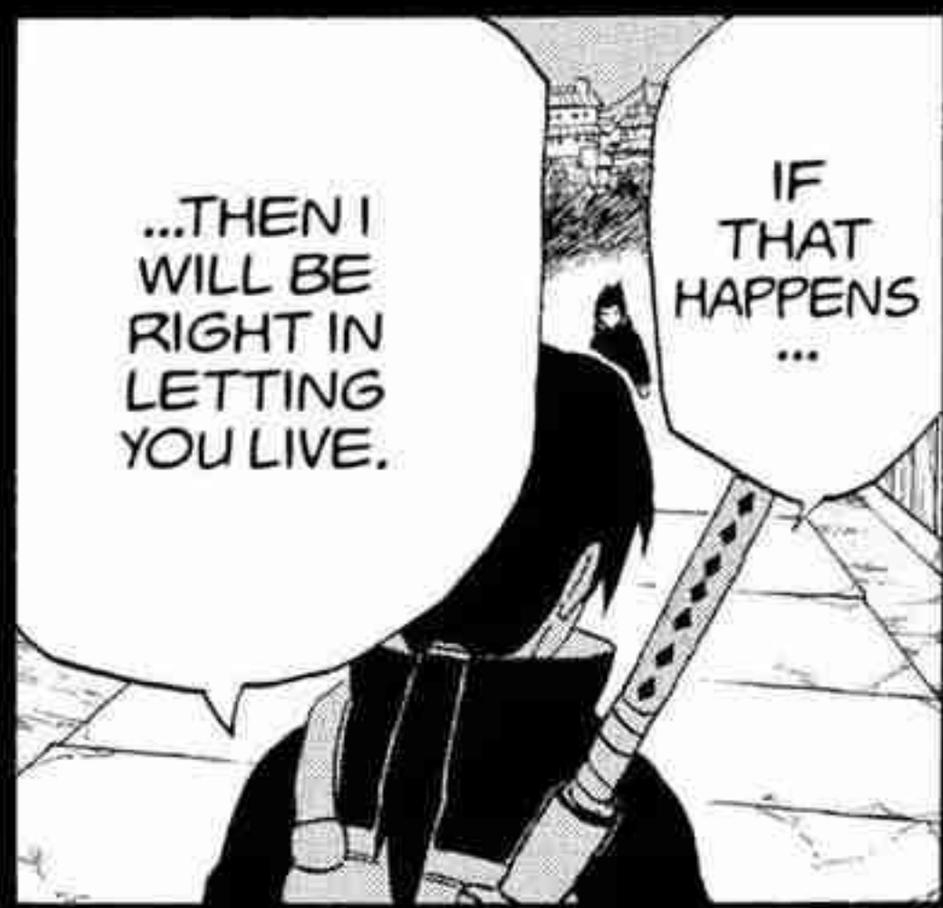
AND NOW I HAVE THE EYES.

THERE'S A REASON WE UCHIHA HAVE OCULAR JUTSU...
?!

UNDER THE SEVENTH TATAMI MAT FROM THE FAR RIGHT, THERE'S A CLAN SECRET MEETING PLACE.
IN THE NAKANO SHRINE'S MAIN HALL...
...

THE TRUTH IS WRITTEN THERE.





...LIKE THE COWARD YOU ARE!

HATE ME AND LIVE...

CLINGING TO LIFE WITHOUT HONOR!

BABY BROTHER, YOU'RE PATHETIC.

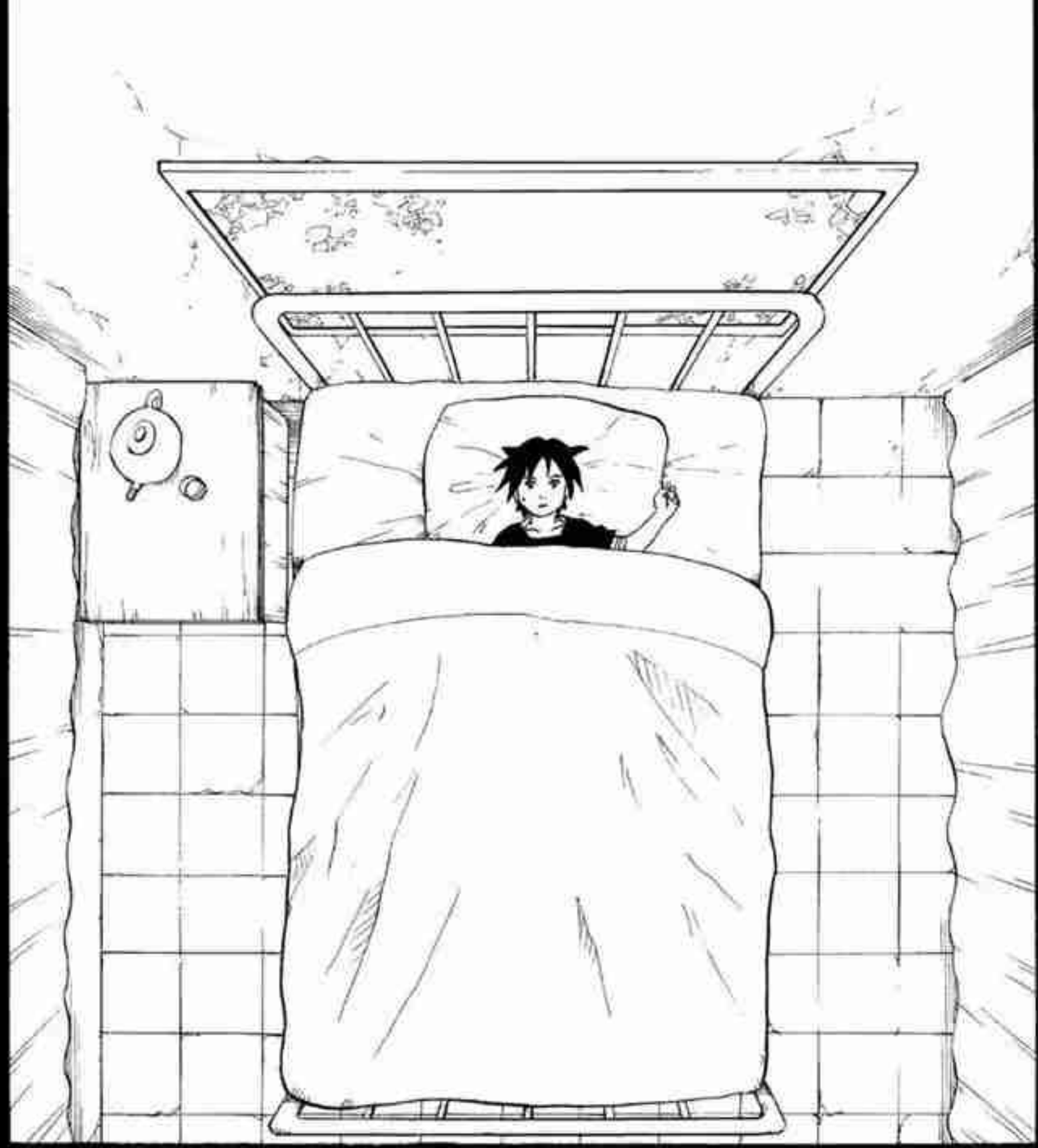
IF YOU WANT TO KILL ME, SETTLE FOR HATING ME...

YOU... ARE NOT EVEN WORTH KILLING.

...YOU WILL FIND ME AGAIN.

CLA-SHE

AND SOMEDAY, WHEN YOU HAVE THE SAME EYES AS I...

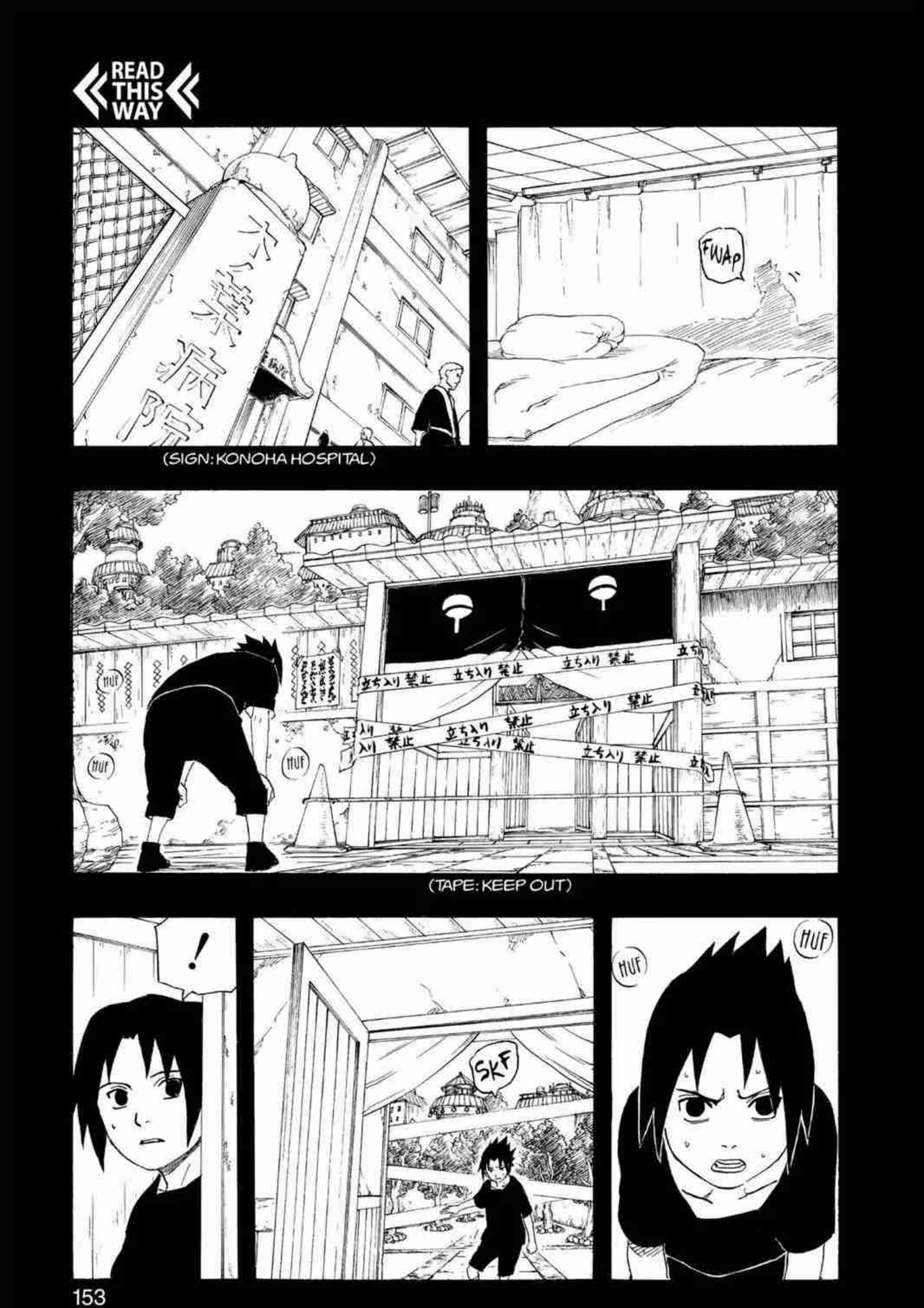


OW!
ZING

...DREAM...
MUF
MUF
MUF

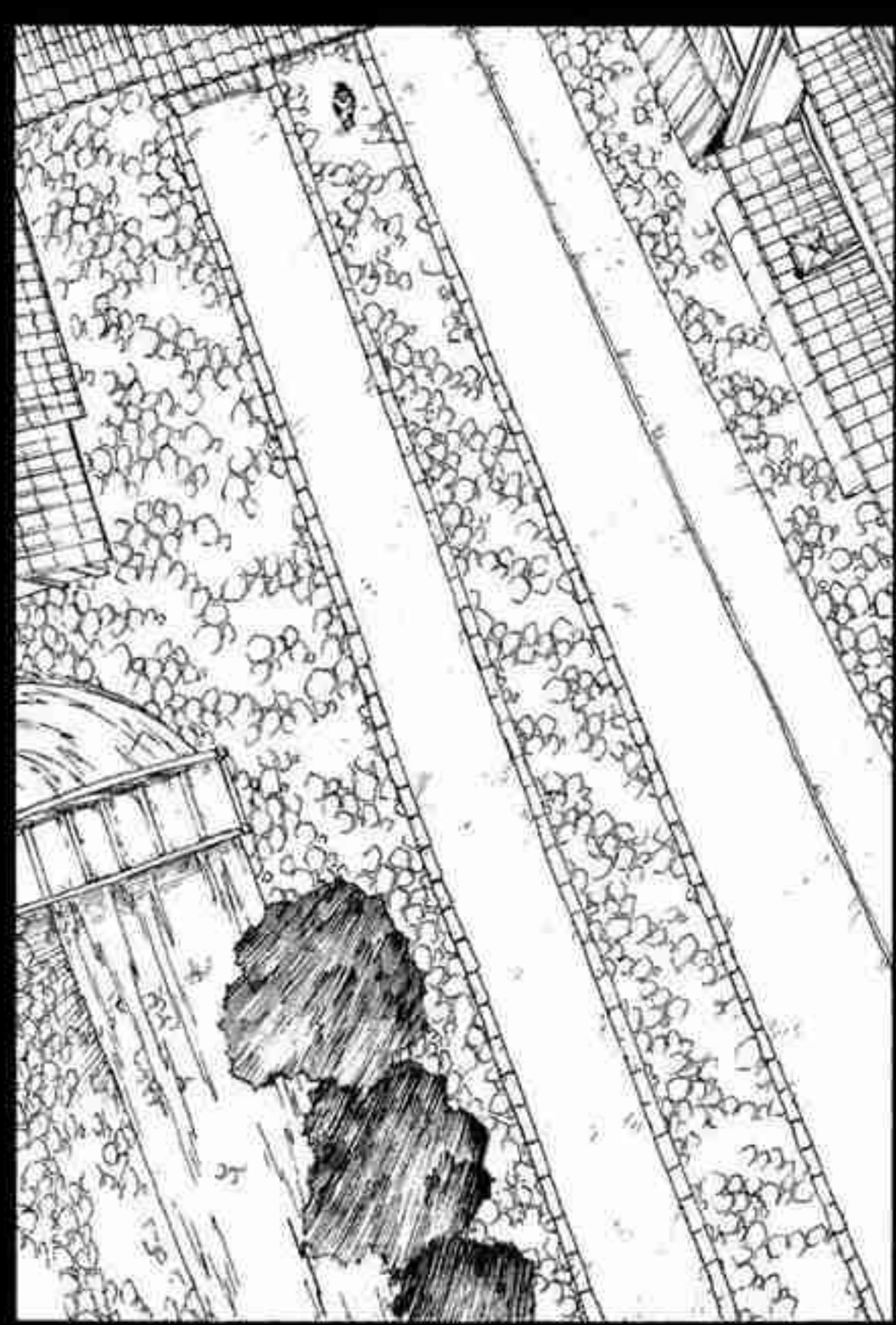
THUNK
SNIP

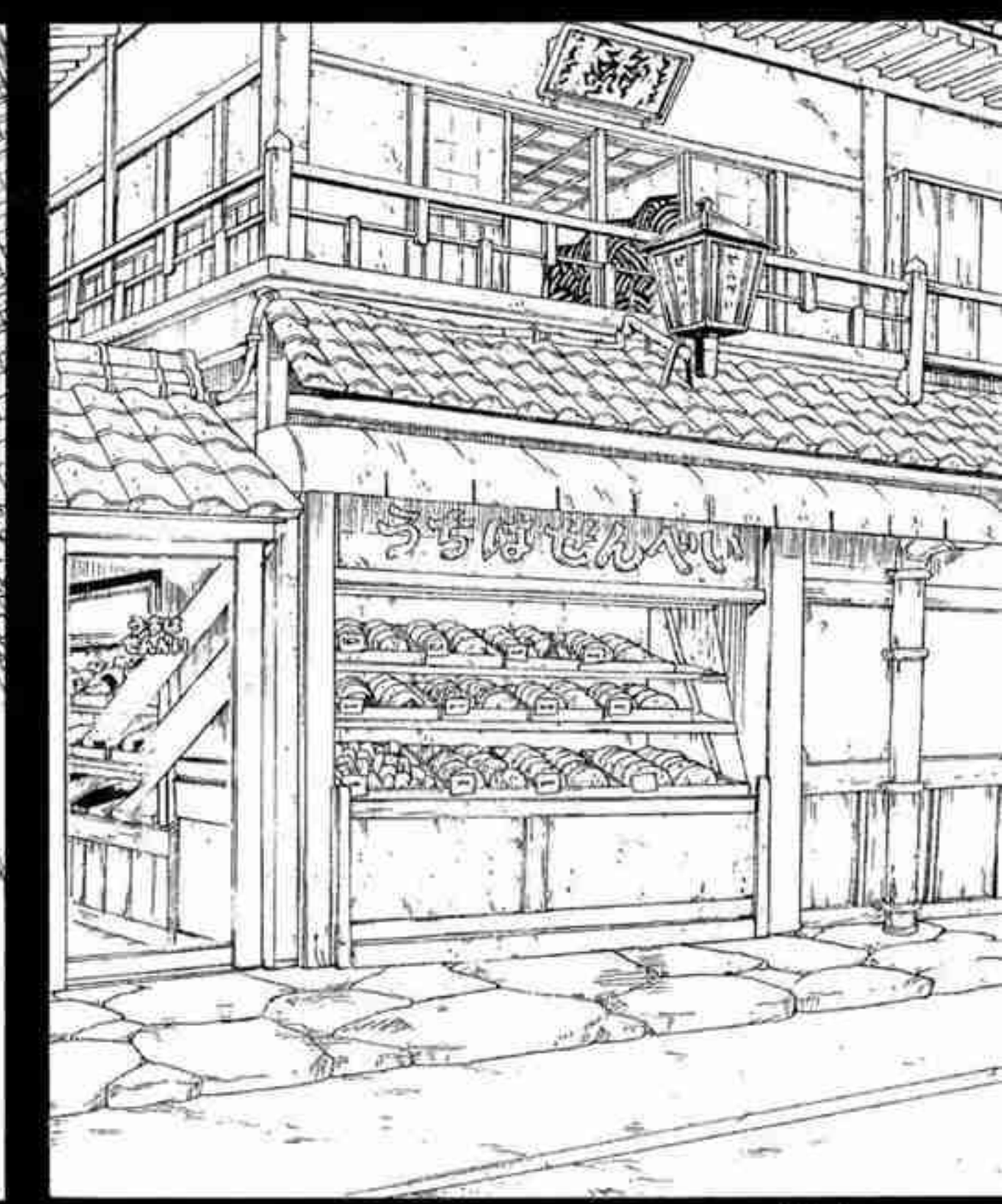
SHF
...


READ THIS WAY
病院
FWAP
(SIGN: KONOHA HOSPITAL)
立ち入り 禁止
HUF
(TAPE: KEEP OUT)
!
SKF
HUF

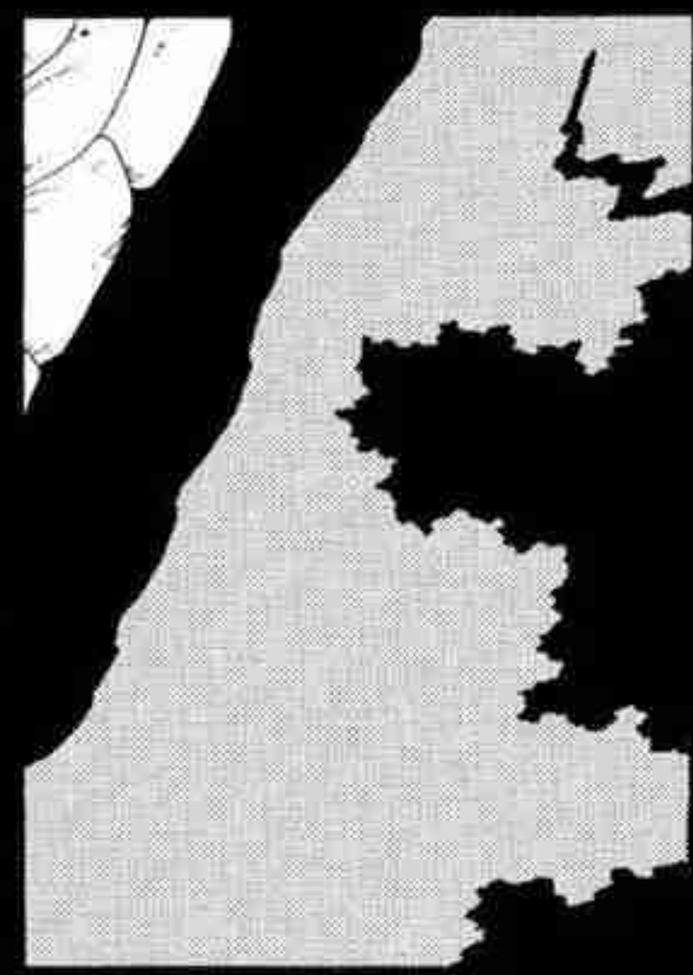
!

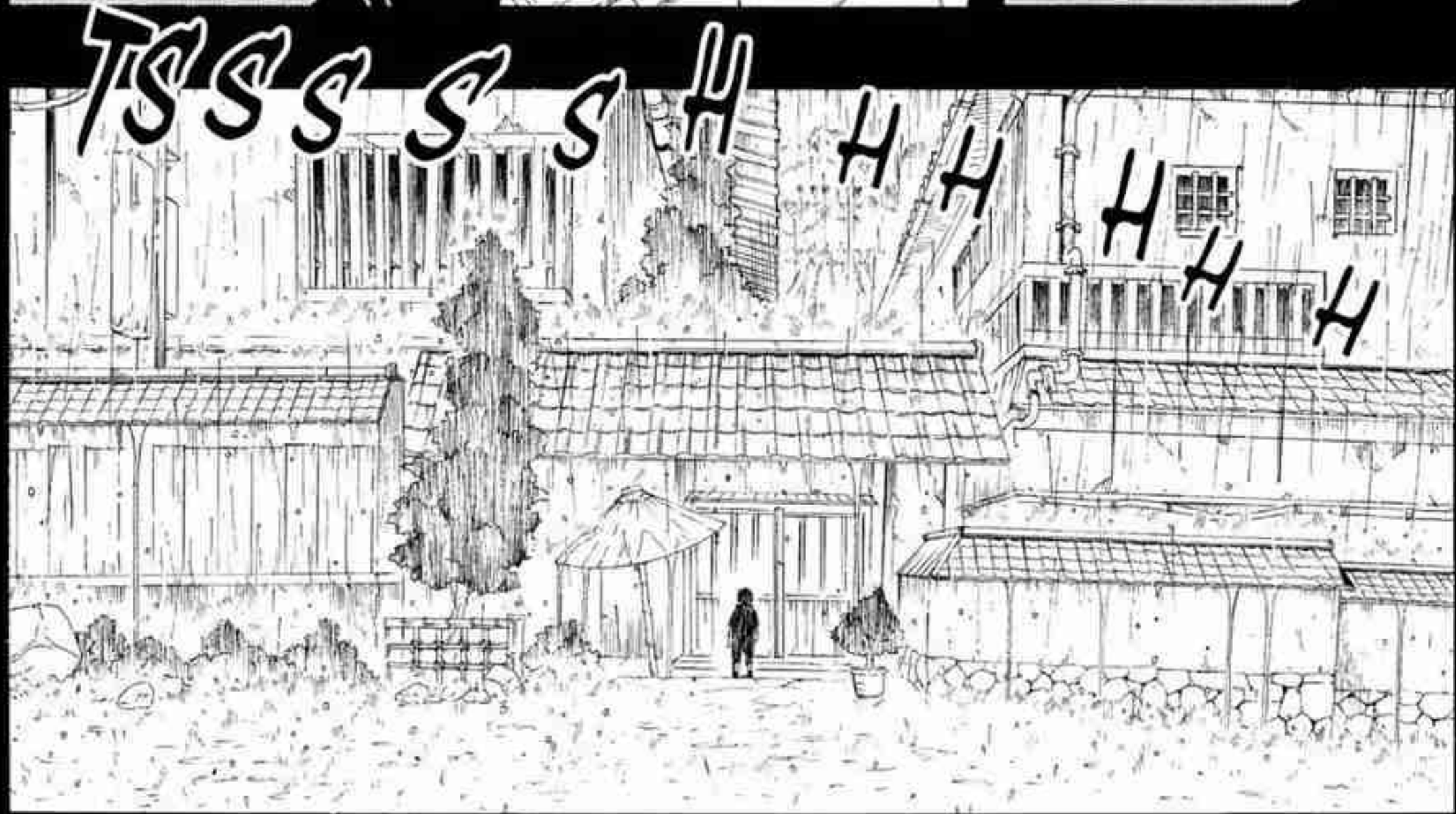
HELLO, SASUKE! WHAT'LL IT BE TODAY?





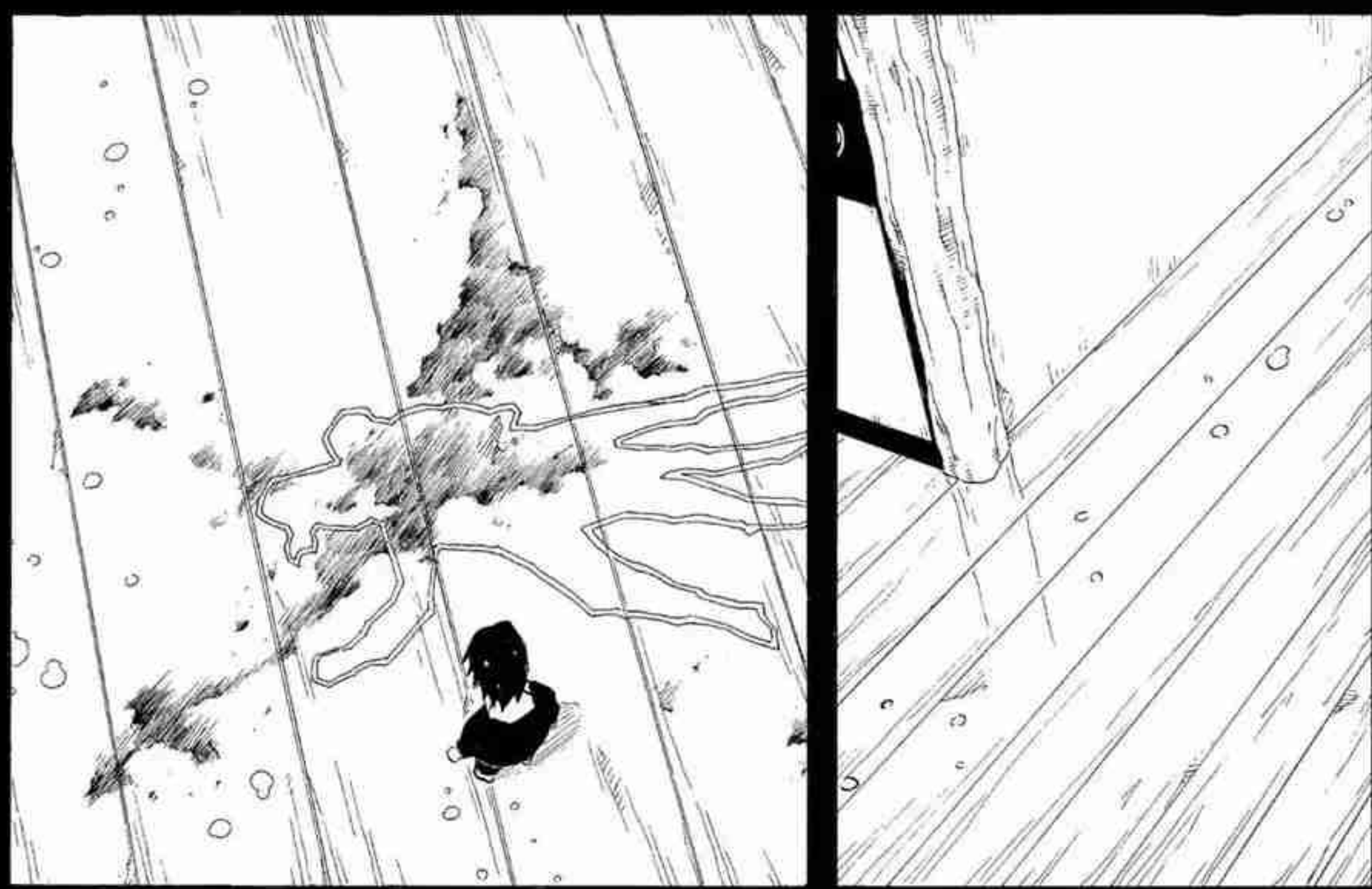
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP




ISSSSSHHHHHH

PLIP

RATTLE...

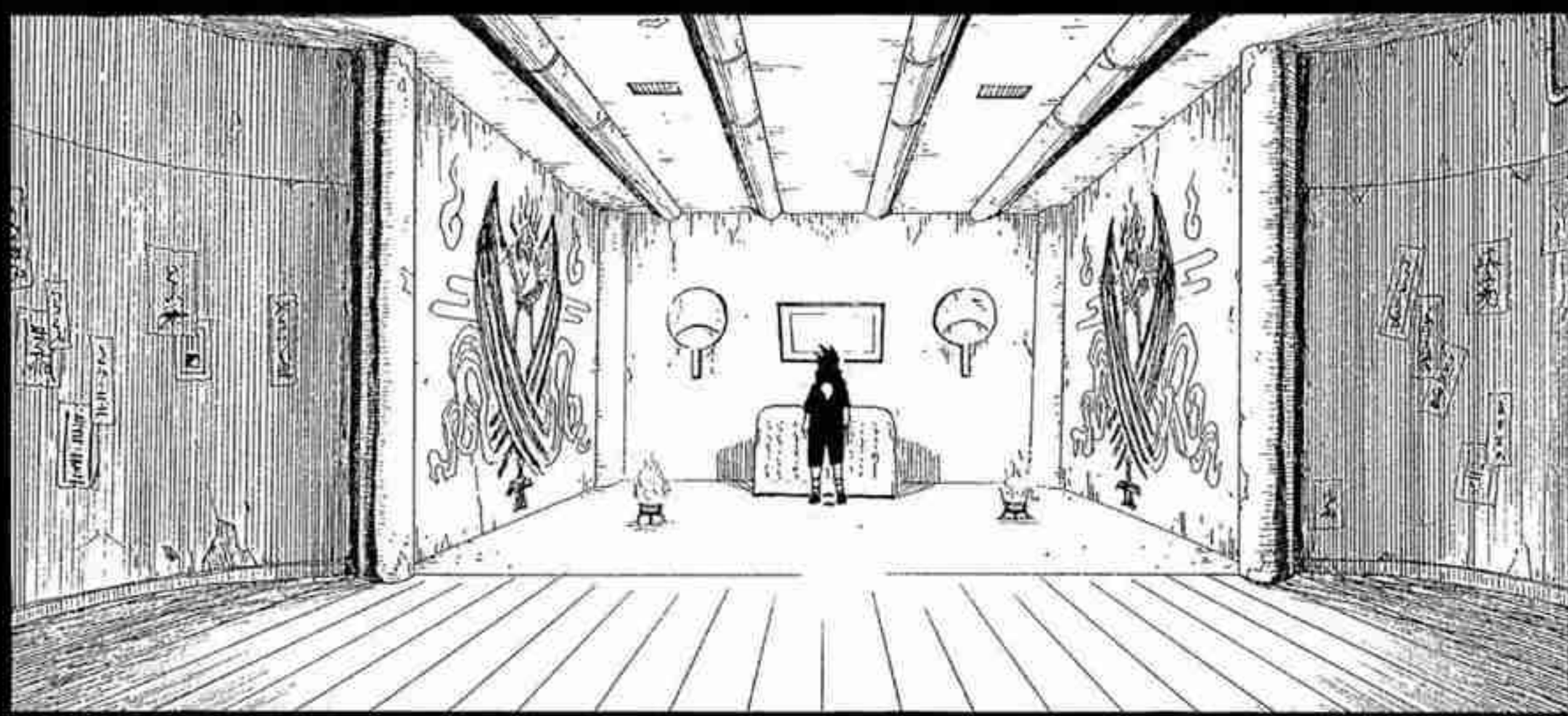

FWUMP
STAGGER
DRIP
DRIP
SOB...
SOB...
SOB...

TSSSHHHHHHH

TUMP
IN THE NAKANO SHRINE'S MAIN HALL...

SO THAT'S IT...
I SEE ...

...THERE'S A CLAN SECRET MEETING PLACE.
UNDER THE SEVENTH TATAMI MAT FROM THE FAR RIGHT...



NAH... I CAN'T. YOUR MOM'S NICE SO IT'S OKAY FOR YOU BUT...
HEY, SHIKAMARU. WANNA GO TO THE CANDY STORE AFTER SCHOOL?

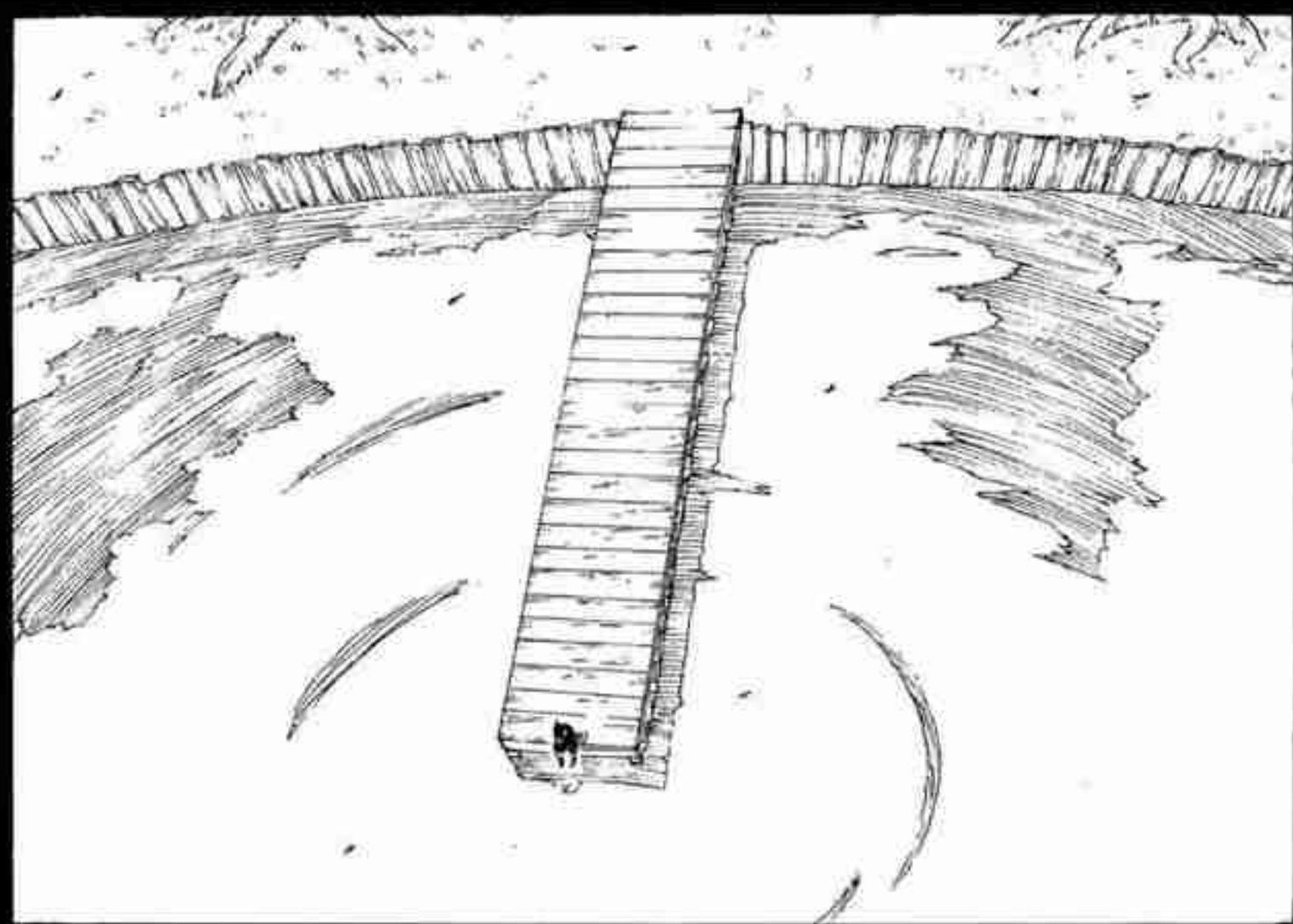
NINJA ACADEMY
忍

DID YOU HEAR...? I HEARD THE WHOLE UCHIHA CLAN GOT KILLED.
YEAH... MY FATHER TOLD ME...

...I'M IN BIG TROUBLE ...
...IF MY MOM CATCHES ME BUYING MUNCHIES ON THE WAY HOME...

SPLIP
SPLIP

I HEARD HE'S THE ONLY SURVIVOR.



HE TALKS ABOUT YOU ALL THE TIME.

...MY BOY.
... THAT'S ...

MOM... WHAT DID FATHER TALK ABOUT...?

FATHER...

READ THIS WAY

NO MATTER WHAT, I WILL GAIN THE POWER!!

NO MATTER HOW DARK THE PATH, I WILL FORGE AHEAD IN ORDER TO KILL YOU!

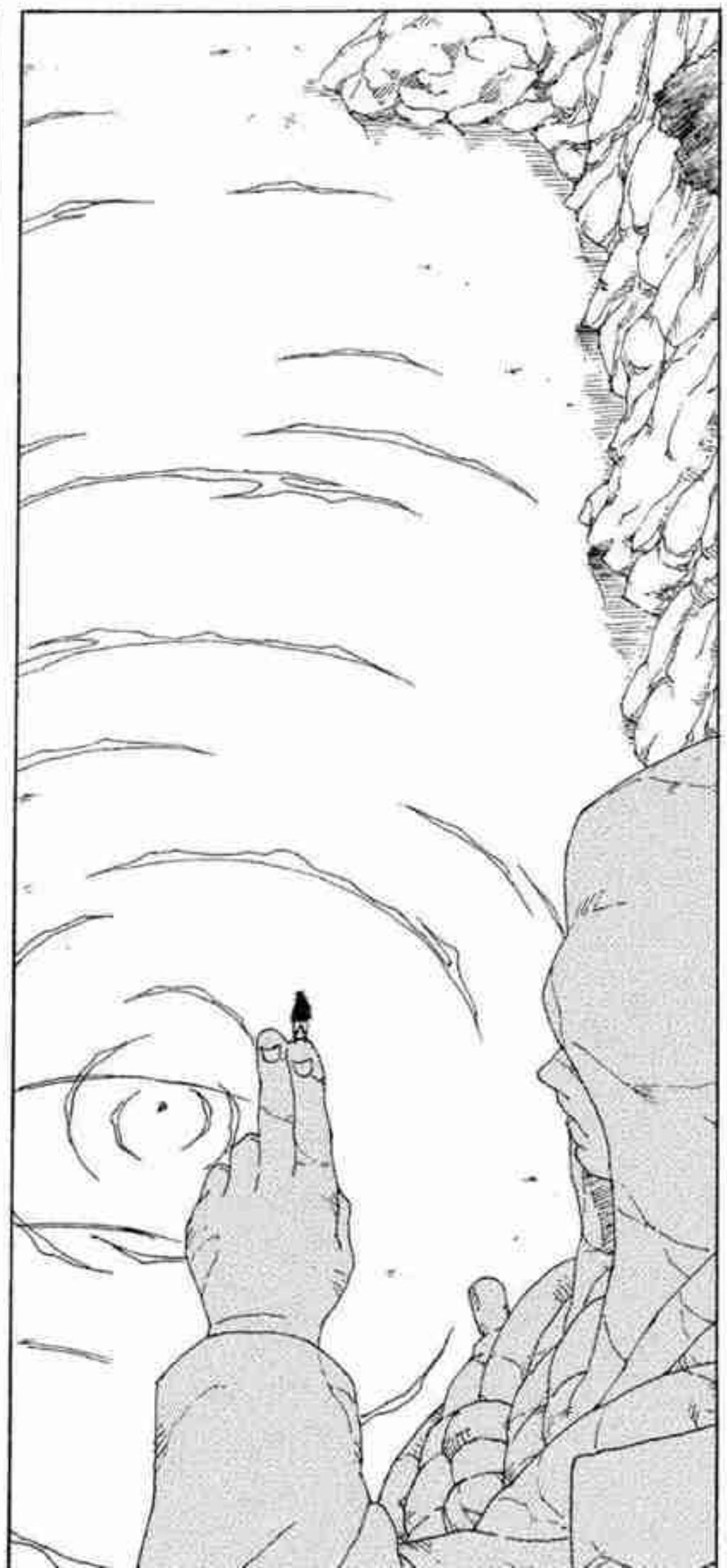
BIG BROTHER...

!

RAH HG!!
SPLASH

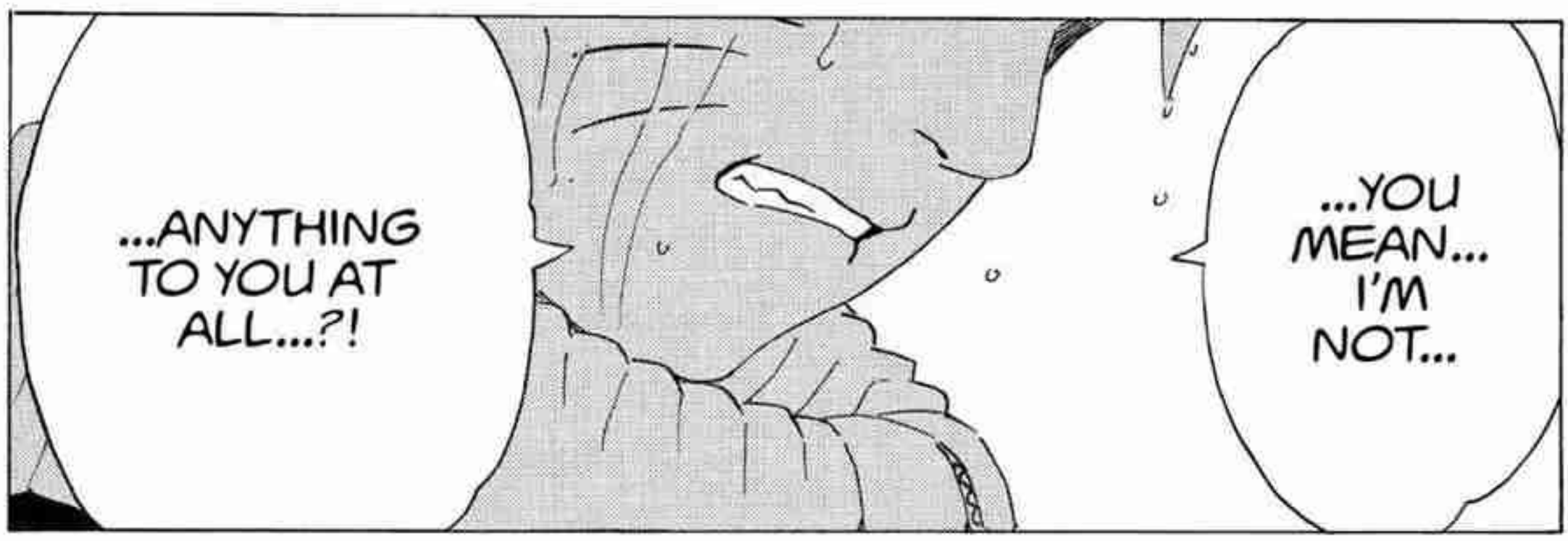
...HE'S IN DARK-NESS.
NEJI... LIKE YOU SAID...
SPLASH

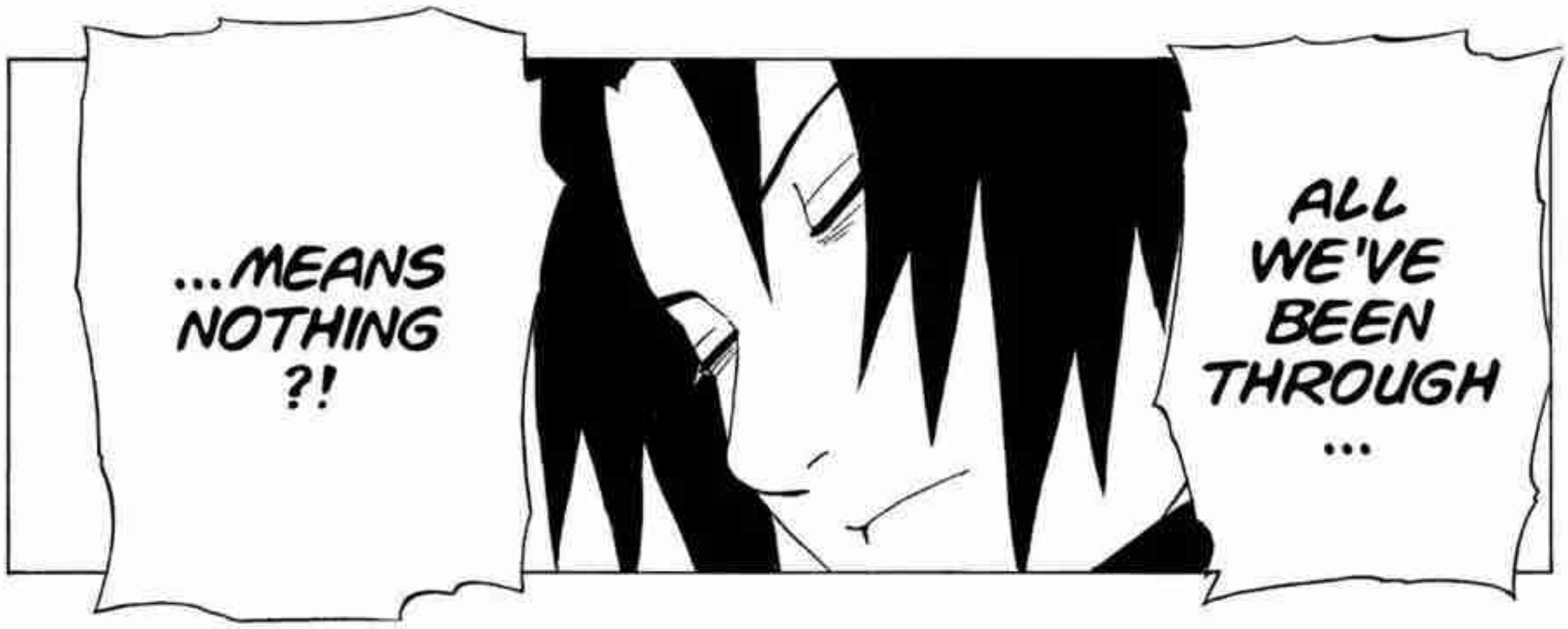
PRETTY GOOD SHOT... SO IT'S FOR REAL, HUH...?
...



!!

I INTEND TO KILL YOU, NARUTO!
YEAH... IT'S FOR REAL.


...ANYTHING TO YOU AT ALL...?!
...YOU MEAN... I'M NOT...


...MEANS NOTHING ?!
ALL WE'VE BEEN THROUGH ...

I WILL GAIN THE POWER.
NO MATTER WHAT...

...NO...
...

YOU HAVE TO KILL... YOUR CLOSEST FRIEND.

BUT THERE'S A CATCH.

...

SSH

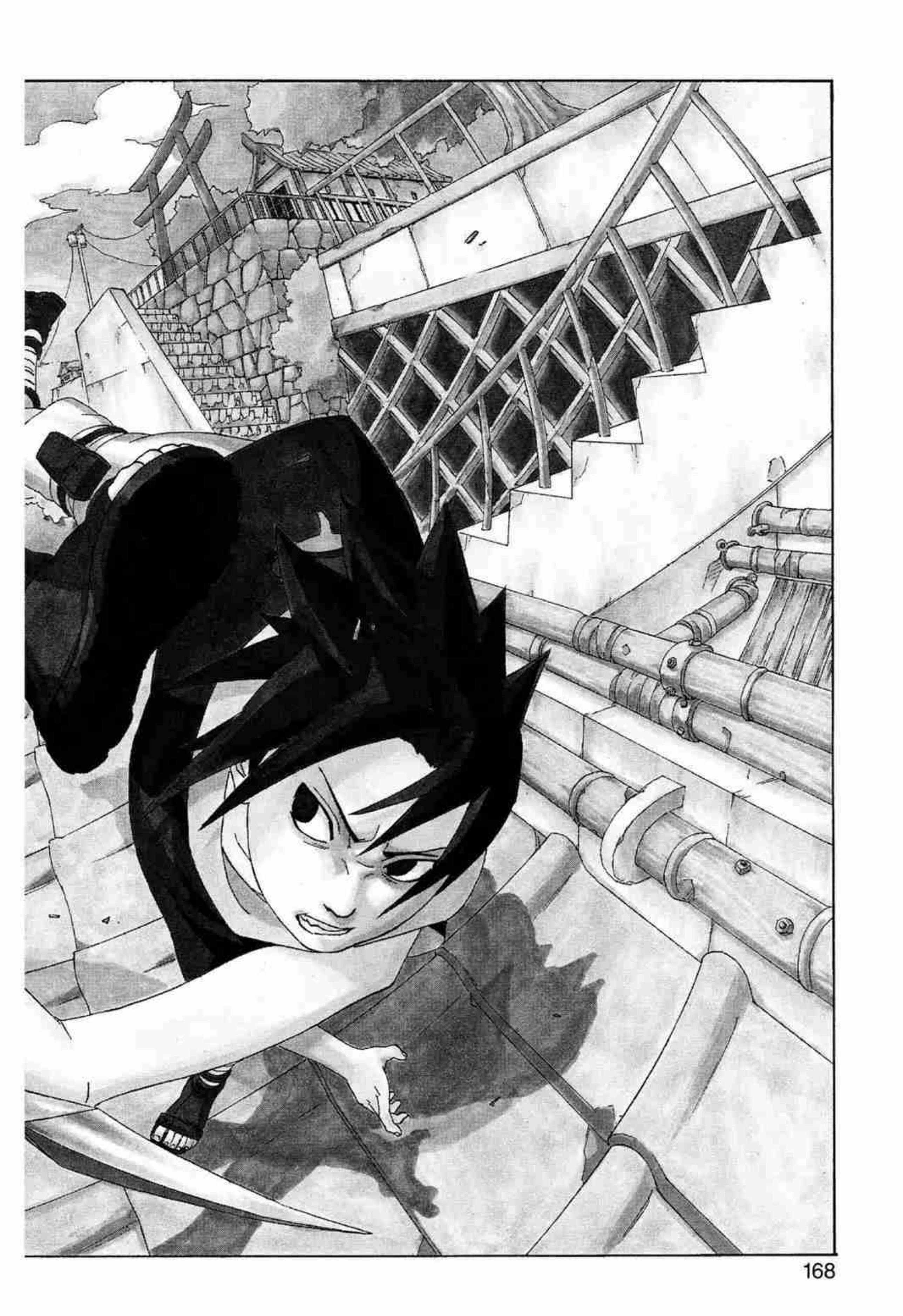
YOU'RE...

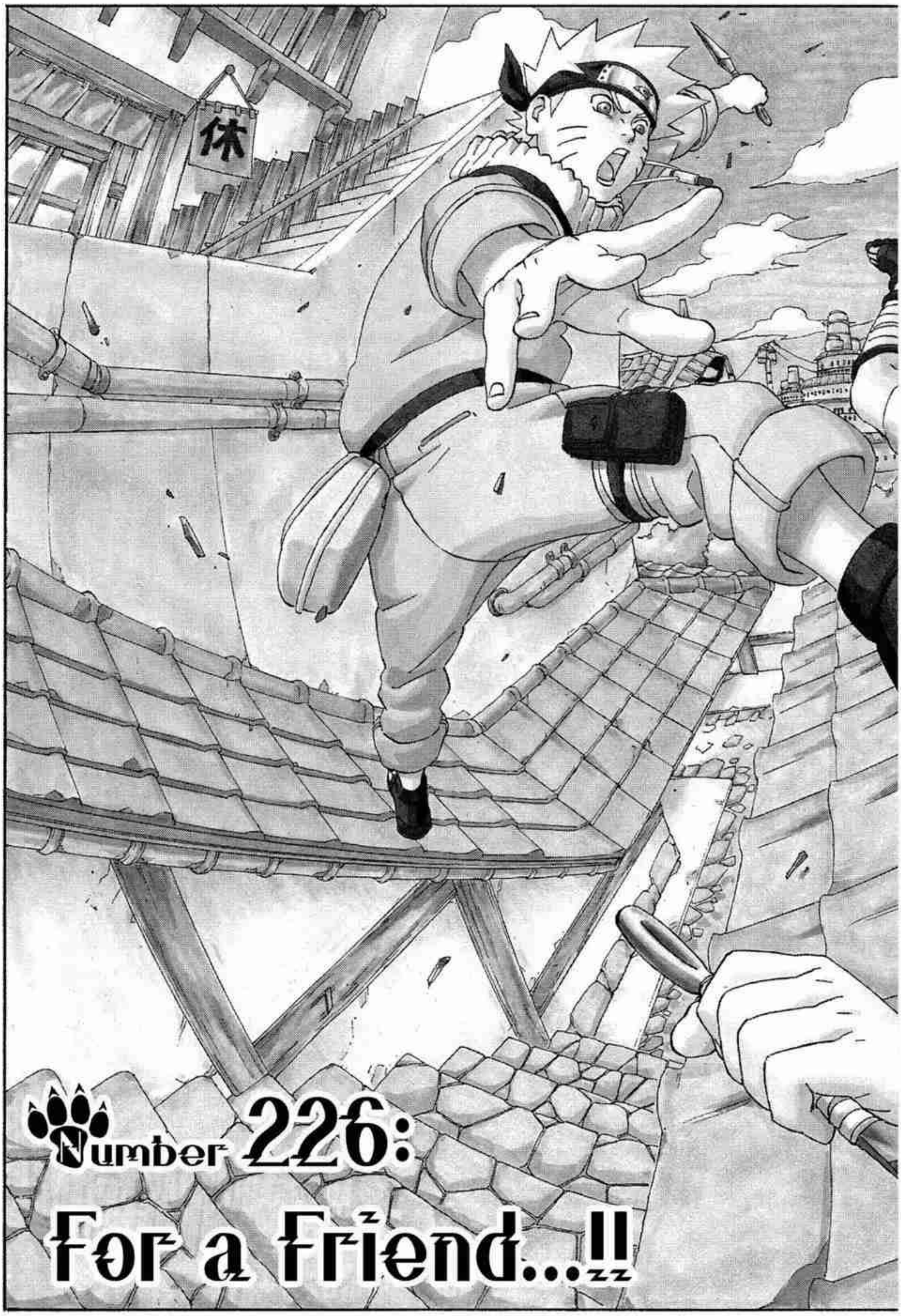
IT'S NOT INSIGNIFICANT. TO ME...

...MY CLOSEST FRIEND.

NARUTO
TM

Number 226: For a Friend...!!




休
Number 226:
For a Friend...!!zz

NARUTO

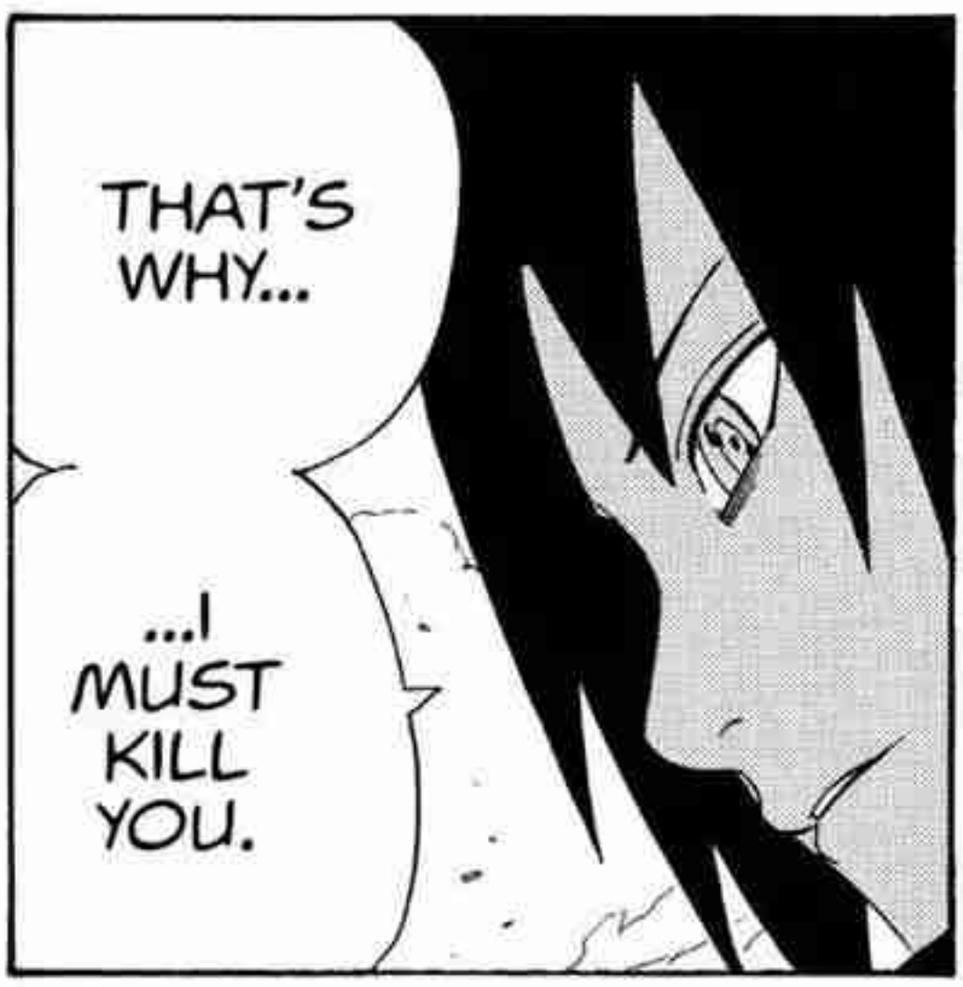
RUMBLE

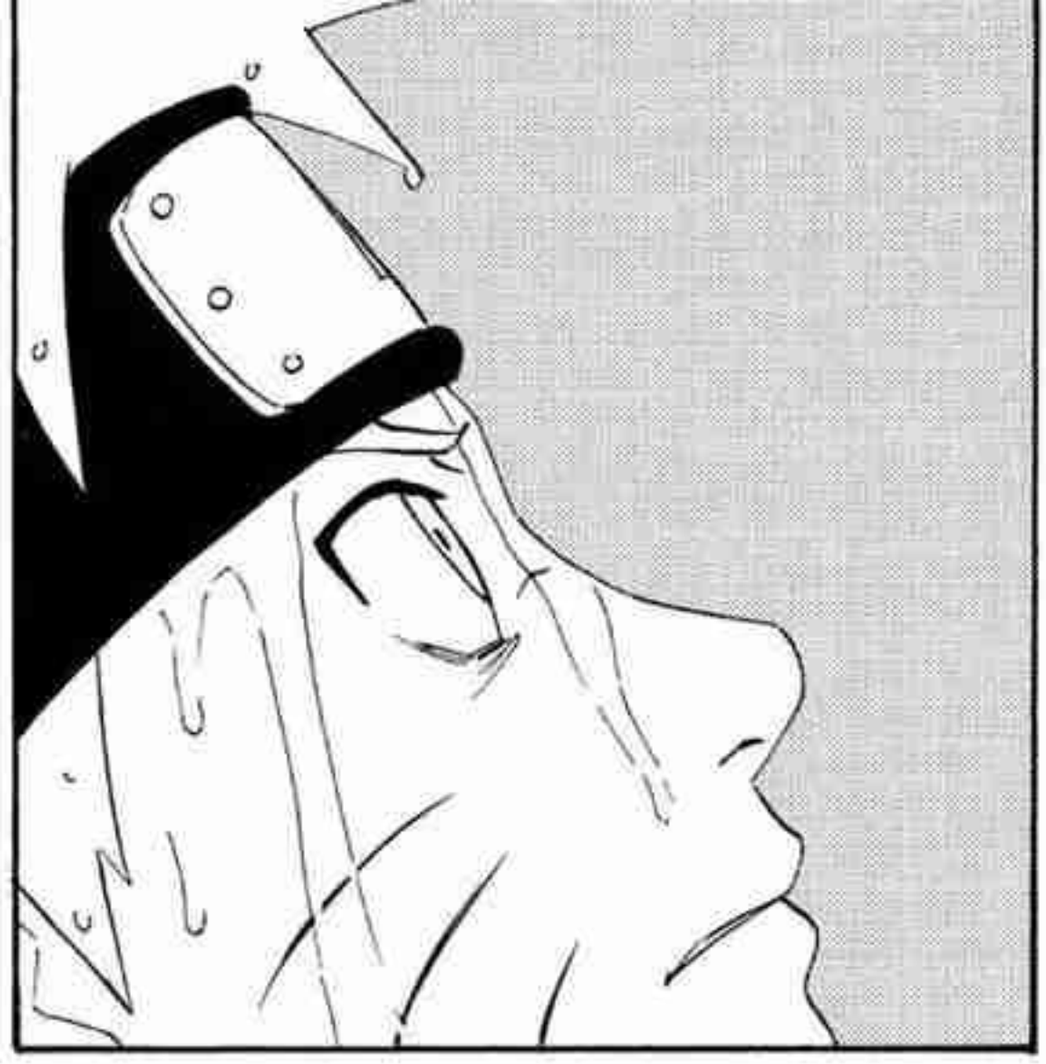
I BECAME YOUR FRIEND ...?

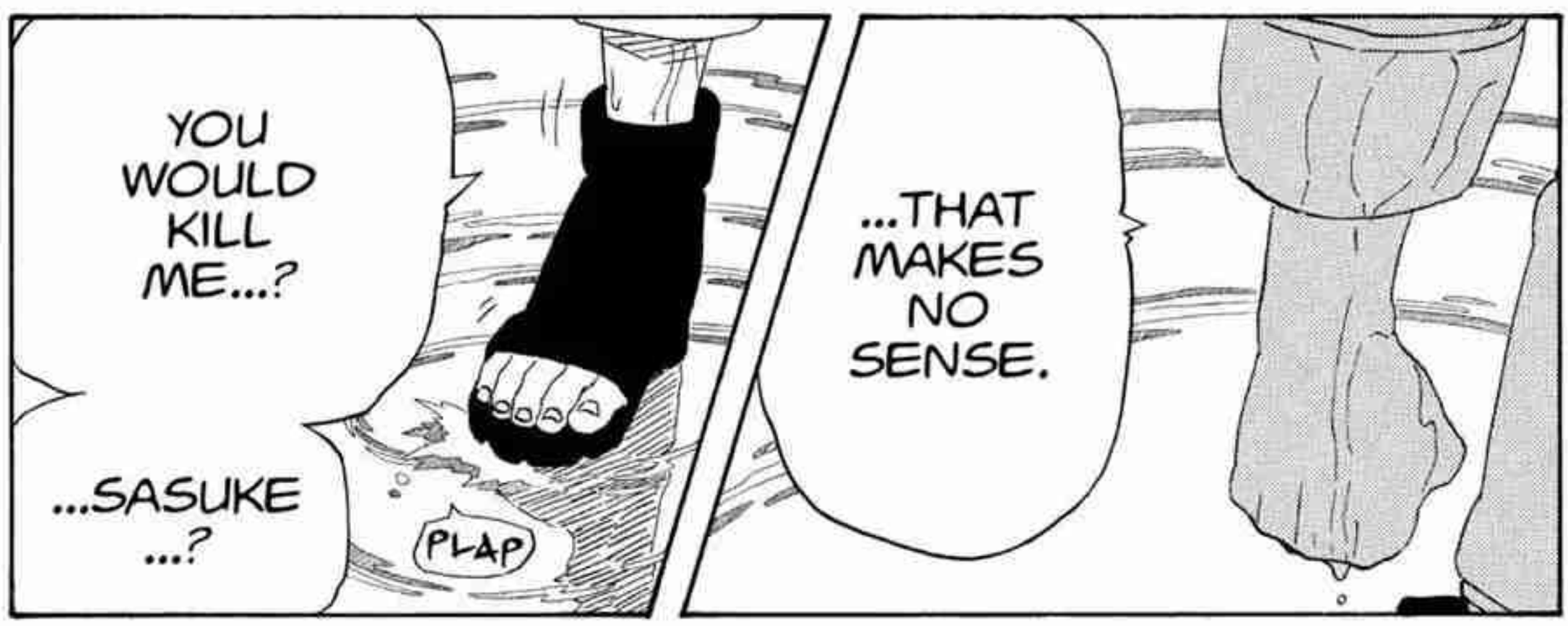
THEN WHY...?

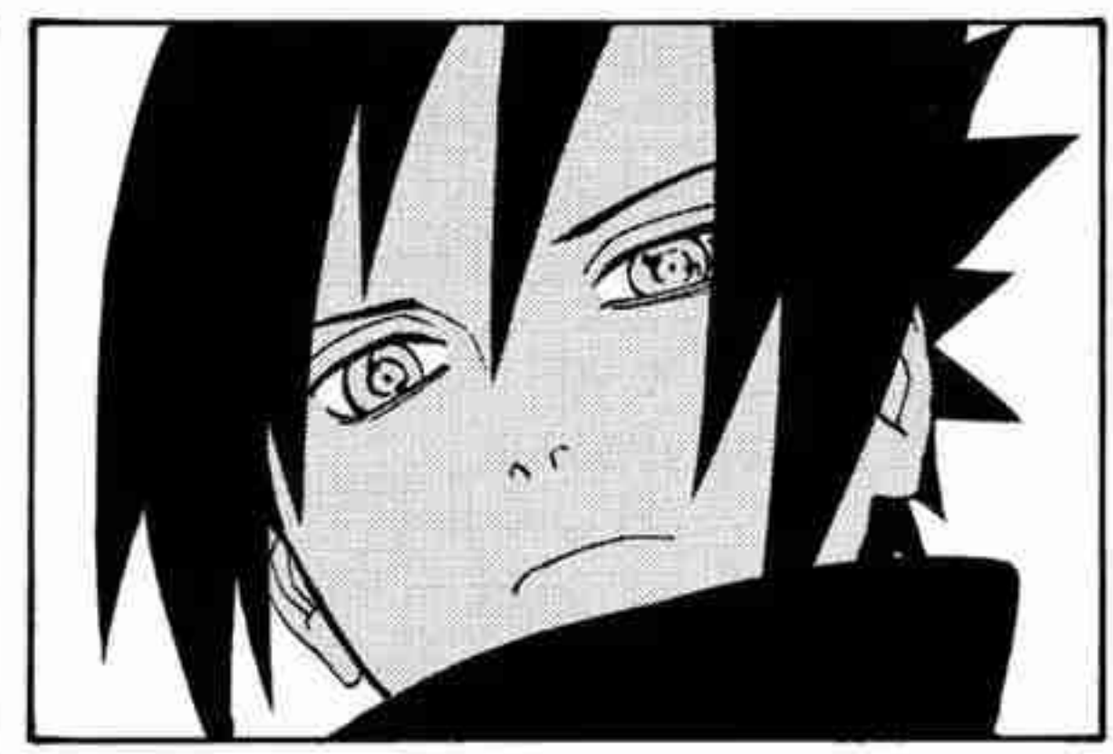
THAT IS WHY.

...?


THAT'S WHY...
...I MUST KILL YOU.

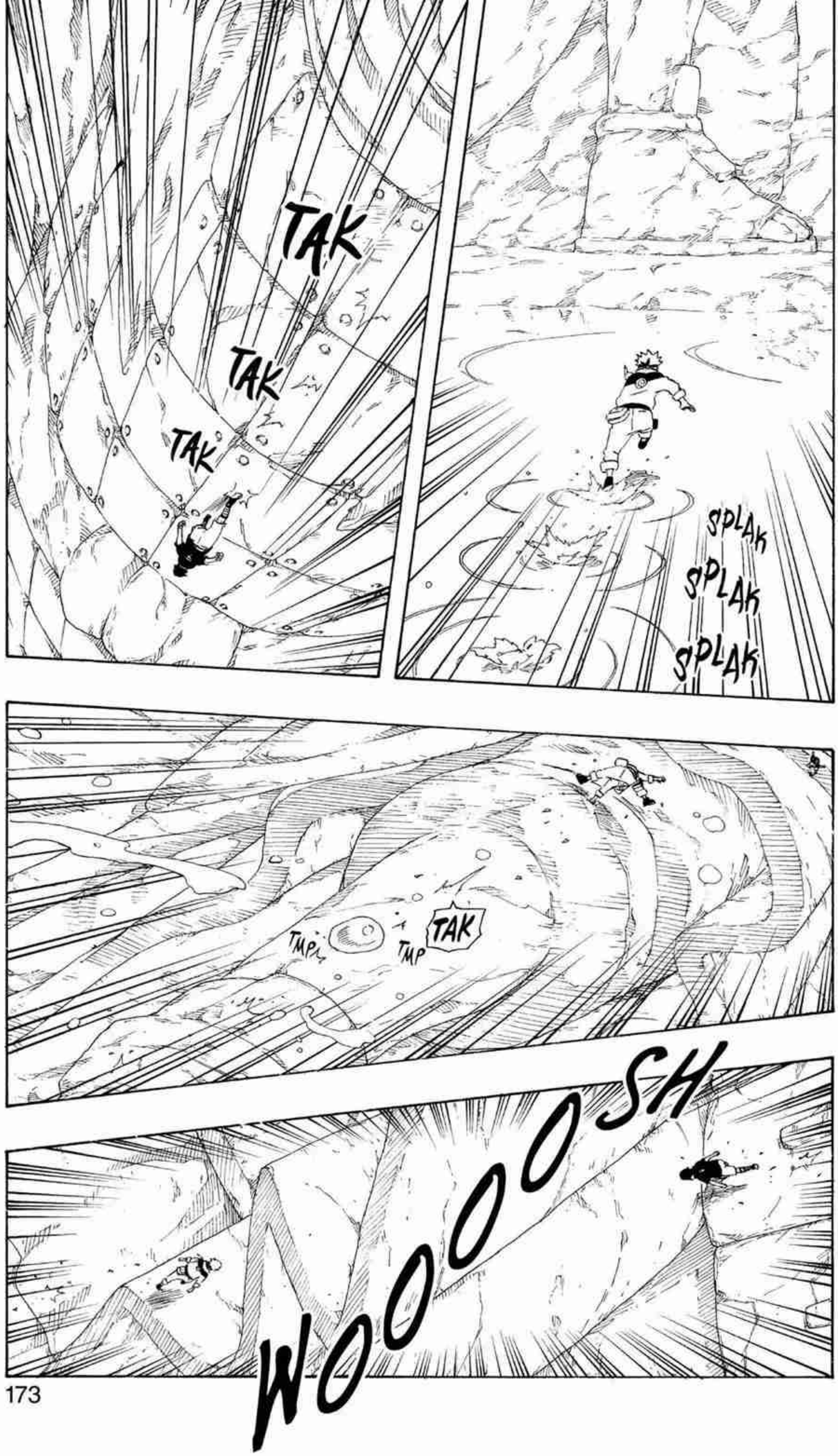



YOU WOULD KILL ME...?
...SASUKE ...?
PLAP
...THAT MAKES NO SENSE.



SPLASH

TAK


TAK
TAK
TAK
SPLAK
SPLAK
SPLAK
TMP
TMP
TAK
WOOOOSH

FWOO
!!
THOK
TAK
ITAK

SHOOP
!
DOOZ
SHOO
TOK
CHAK
SHUU
SKIDD
CHINN
NG
SPLOOSH

!!
THWACK
SPAK-SPAK-SPAK-SPAK-SPAK
UGH!

...
THERE'S NO ONE TO BUTT IN LIKE BEFORE.

THERE'S NO KAKASHI OR SAKURA THIS TIME.
LIKE I SAID...
YOU'VE ACTUALLY BEEN WAITING FOR THIS TOO, HAVEN'T YOU?

SPLASH
I'M GONNA KILL YOU.

I'LL SAY IT ONCE MORE.
RUMBLE
TMP
TMP

SHUP
SHUP

CHIDORI! 1000 BIRDS!!

RUMMBLE

WHOO

BOOF

KAGE-BUNSHIN NO JUTSU! ART OF THE SHADOW DOPPEL-GANGER !!

FWIP FWIP FWD FWD

SPAK

RASENGAN!!

WHIR RR

RRRUMBLE

TMP TMP

SPAK SPAK

SPLOSH

SPAK- SPAK

CHUF

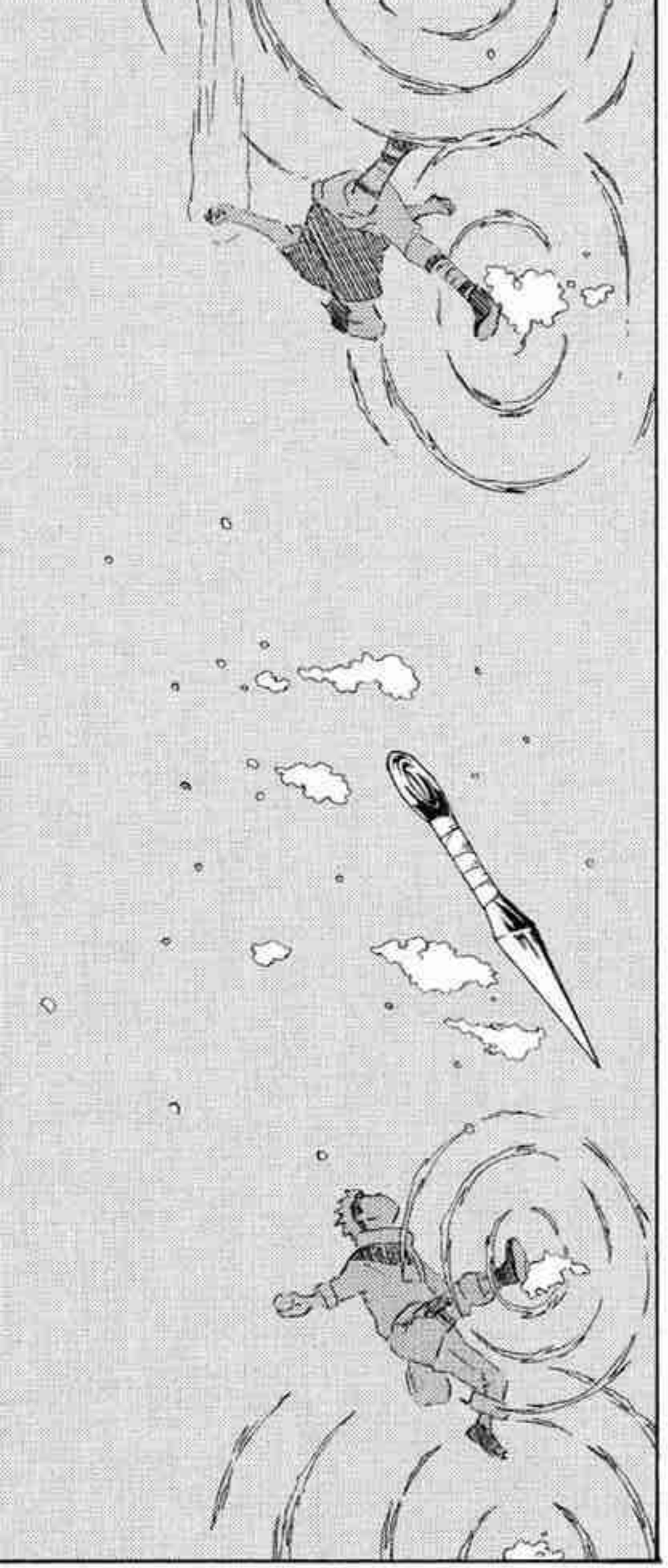
CHARGE !!

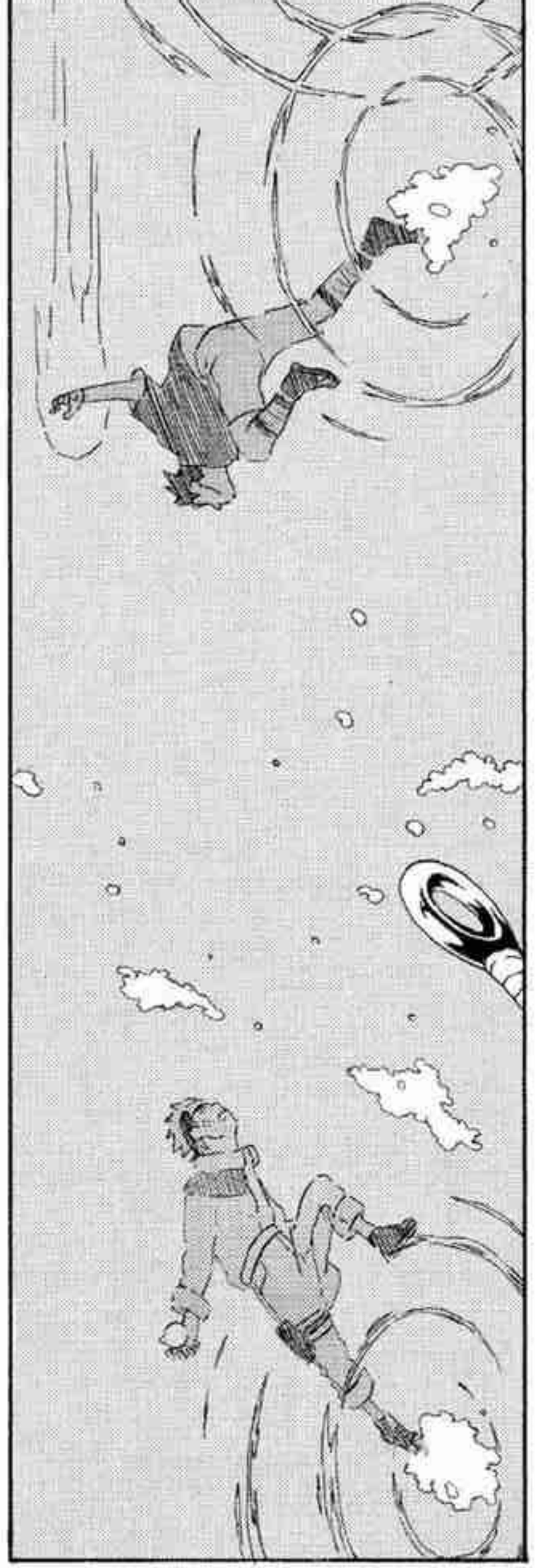
TUG

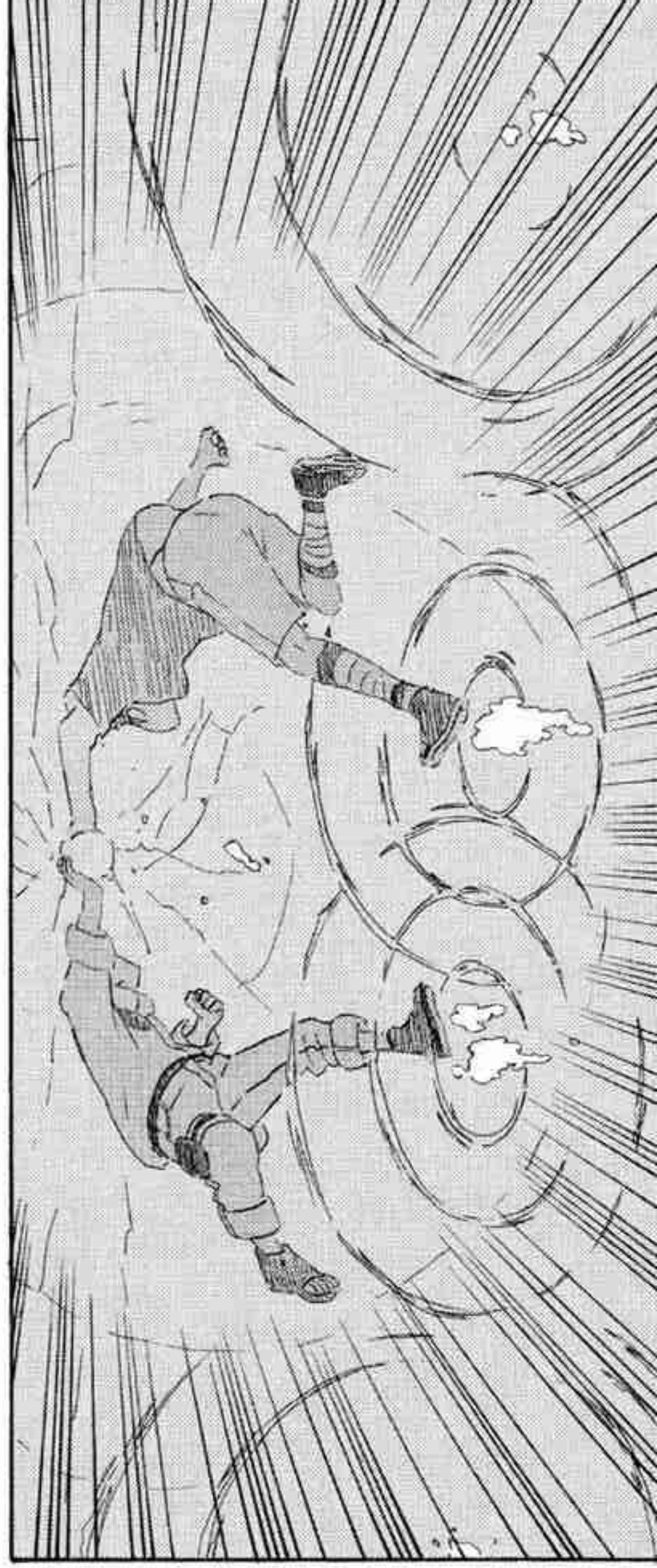
EYAAAAH!!

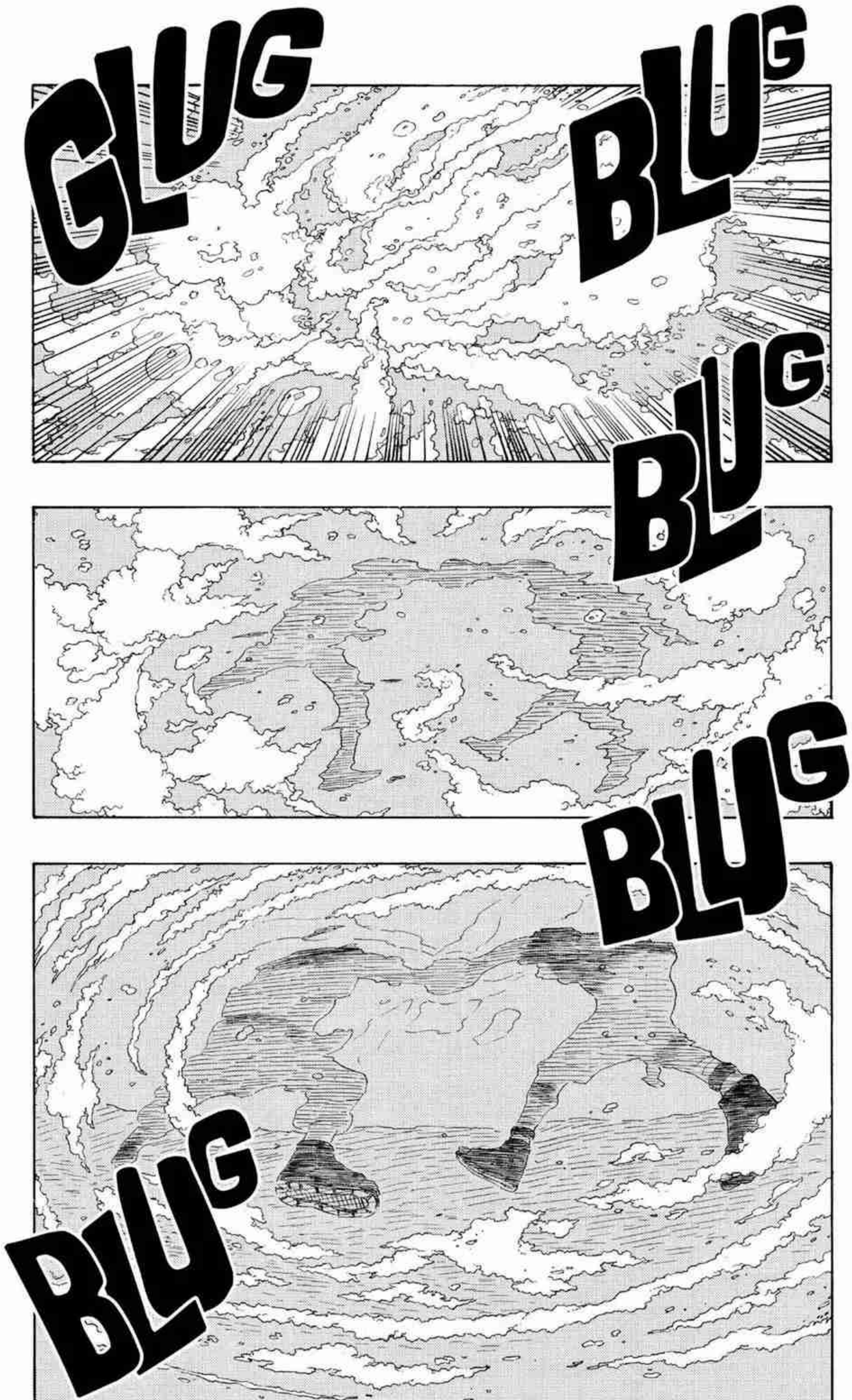
FWUMP

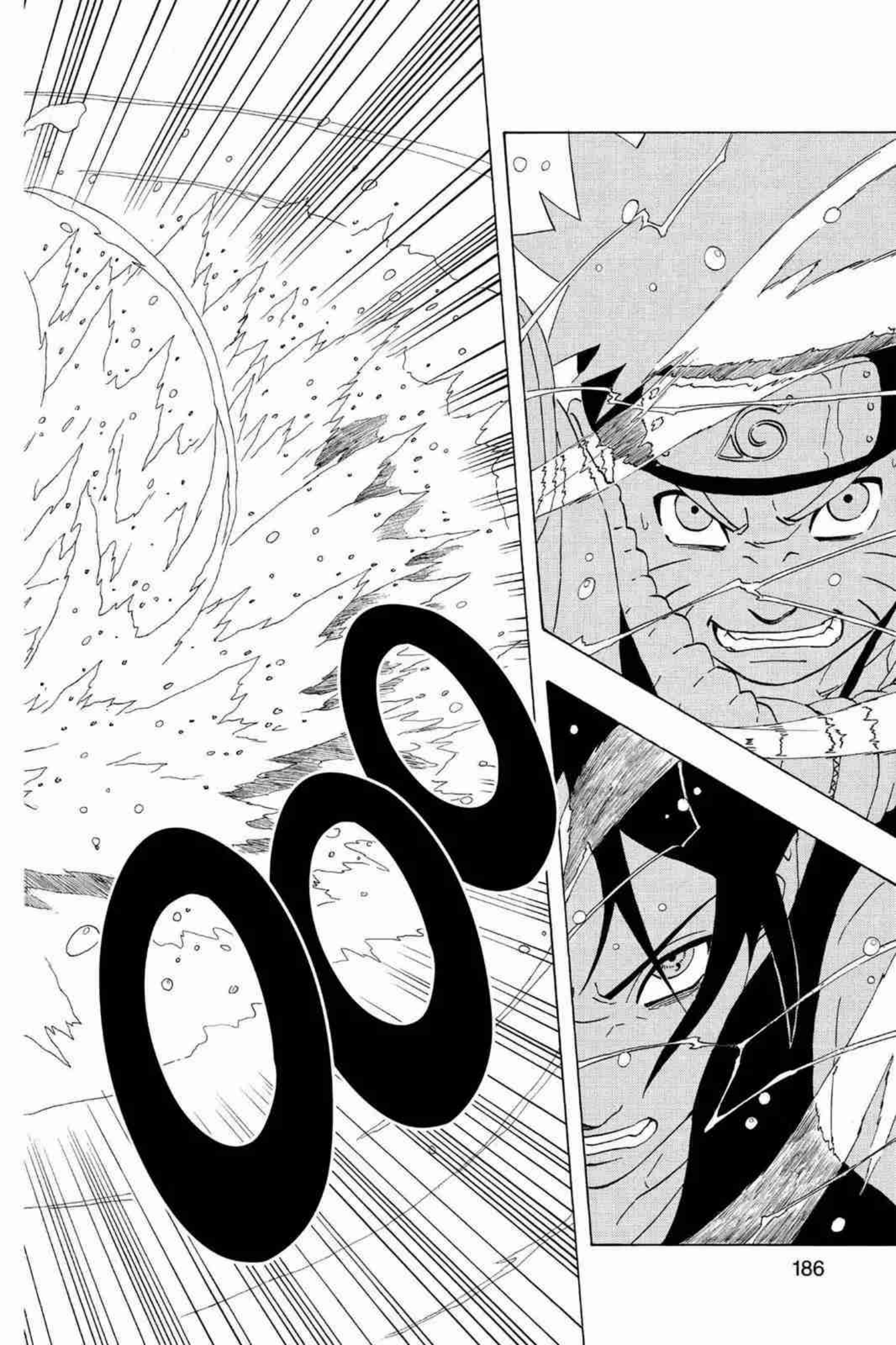
READ THIS WAY
KOBSHI








BLUG
BLUG
BLUG
BLUG



TO BE CONTINUED IN *NARUTO* VOL. 26!